ASEAN

ASEAN's constructive engagement policy/ Logan Masilamani, et.al

This article explores the concept of "constructive engagement" and how ASEAN utilized it in a more nuanced manner to engage Burma's military junta. It will analyze the normative-pragmatic balance of ASEAN's constructive engagement policy in its formative and early stages. It will outline the segmented composition of constructive engagement into two predominant perspectives of economic and political engagement.

ASEAN's relevance and benefit: a perspective from Indonesia/ Rocky Intan

This article highlights that ASEAN remains relevant for Indonesia's foreign policy based on the concentric circles formula; and that ASEAN has brought one major benefit for Indonesia by being the platform for engagement for relevant major powers in East Asia.

The ASEAN Human Rights Declaration, the Human Rights Council, and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action/ Christian Guillermet Fernández, et.al

This paper analyzes the concept of international peace and human rights within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), along with the ways in which peace should be understood in connection to such outstanding legal provisions of international human rights law as the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration.

ASIA PACIFIC

Eye in the sky/ Peter Donaldson

This article looks at the Asia-Pacific region's need to procure maritime patrol capabilities to address issues such as smuggling, human trafficking, piracy, terrorist threats, etc. within the region.

BRIC nations ramp-up nuclear defence capabilities/ Stefan Nitschke

BRIC countries are expected to have a bigger impact on the world's economic prospects, and plan to modernise and expand their military forces.

BRUNEI

Trent 1000s examined after Royal Brunei in-flight event/ Michael Gubisch

A brief article reporting on the investigation conducted on the in-flight shutdown that happened on a Royal Brunei flight to Manila on 21 October 2015.

BRUNEI

Brunei: defending a small resource rich country/ David Saw

This article looks at Brunei Darussalam's range of legitimate defence requirements that it will gradually work to fulfill.

CYBER SECURITY

Why keeping pace with zero day vulnerabilities is vital to government security/ Malcolm Shore

With threats in the cyber world that potentially harms government institutions, this article provides 5 identified cyber crime and warfare trends that are likely to threaten government organisations' security management. It also suggests how the government can respond to these threats.

Cyber security: an Australian defence update/ Geoff Slocombe

Focussing on Australia, this article looks at how threats in the cyber world can affect a nation and its defence.

Cyber: the 21st century threat/ Brian Kindamo

When the World Trade Center and the Pentagon were attacked in September 2001, just over 500 million of the population of Planet Earth used the Internet – then about 8% of the global population . Today that figures approaches three billion, or more than 40%. In between these two points in time lie a series of attacks on society and commerce launched from the cyber domain, some real, some imagined, and a growing sense of unease that the next 'Big One' in terms of state or criminally inspired cyber terrorism may be a game changer, in that it may lead to catastrophic results that could require weeks, months or even years to mitigate.

INFO TECH

Future mission training in the Royal Air Force : the utility of live virtual and constructive (LVC) technologies/ Joe Doyle

This paper briefly defines LVC technologies and then describes the nascent capabilities that the Royal Air Force already employs on its training aircraft. The paper highlights some of the challenges that must be overcome if LVC technologies are to be exploited as part of a general increase in synthethic training. It then explores how the Royal Air Force will benefit from the extension of these capabilities onto the front line.

LEADERSHIP

Air force leaders take note: the army is changing/ Jason Earley

Military Review: November-December2015, pp.77-84 (81)

An air force officer discusses how planned changes in Army structure, size and doctrine will effect the air force and its leaders.

Leading soldiers with – not primarily through – communication technology/ Andrew B. Stipp

Military Review: November-December2015, pp.101-107 (81)

Interpersonal relationships should be enhanced by the use of technology, but technology must never be allowed to supplant those relationships. Face-to-face communication, or other active communication techniques, should be the preferred means for leaders to understand their soldiers' values, principles and emotions.

On operational leadership/ Milan Vego

Joint Force Quarterly: Issue 77, 2nd Quarter 2015, pp.60-69 (79)

Success of any military organization depends on the experience and good judgment of its leaders. Ideally, all commanders should have a high level of professional education and training in addition to some critically important character traits. Moreover, the higher the level of command, the more important it is that commanders and staff meet these requirements. Wars are not won or lost at the tactical level but at the operational and strategic levels. Hence, it is critically important that operational commanders are selected based solely on their proven or potential warfighting abilities and not their political connections or management skills.

MALAYSIA

Programme of work: Malaysia's increase in regional naval prominence/ Stefan Nitschke

Naval Forces: Vol.XXXVI, No.II/2015, , pp.76-78 (41)

The Royal Malaysian Navy evolves into a modern fleet able to secure the country's maritime interests.

The Malaysian defence industry: capable, eager and willing but largely neglected/ Dzirhan Mahadzir

Military Technology: Vol.XXXIX Iss.3 2015, pp.22-25 (38)

This article discusses the Malaysian Defence Industry's Catch 22 troubles, the Malaysian Armed Forces (ATM), the spiral of modernisation, and gives an overview of what the future might bring.

MIDDLE EAST

Rise of the caliphates/ Romain Quivooij

Military Technology: Vol.XXXIX Iss.12 2015, pp.43-47 (38)

This article draws a comprehensive picture of the so-called "Islamic State" (IS) and assesses its potential for development, while examining some of the main challenges associated with the implementation of counter-strategies.

MIDDLE EAST

Combating terror: Arab leaders propose solutions/ David Kibble

The Naval Review: Vol.103, No.3 August 2015, pp.247-249 (42)

At the end of 2014 Arab leaders came together at the Manama Dialogue Conference. The conference dealt with regional security in the Middle East in the face of the rise of the Islamic State. This article summarised some of the conclusions.

MILITARY EDUCATION

A way to teach critical thinking skills so learners will continue using them in operations/ Marcus Griffin

Military Review: November-December2015, pp.108-118 (81)

Even the most popular critical thinking classes do not necessarily lead to critical thinking on the job. Former Human Terrain System trainers describe an integrative model for ensuring learners continue to apply critical thinking in complex situations.

MILITARY EXERCISE

Environment training: maintaining skills in the arctic and jungle environments/ Andrew White

Military Technology: Vol.XXXIX Iss.12 2015, pp.26-27 (38)

This article takes a look at training exercises across a multitude of environments including jungle, winter, mountainous, desert, temperate, littoral and urban conditions in order to maintain Armed Forces readiness.

MILITARY PLANNING

Live and simulated fire training: revolutionising small combat unit training in the future/ Andrew White

Military Technology: Vol.XXXIX Iss.12 2015, pp.54-56 (38)

"Train as you fight!" has become a popular slogan routinely referred to within the British Armed Forces when conducting training scenarios prior to deployment. In essence, it demands that exercising troops must exert the same energy and intensity in the training environment as employed during live combat operations. However, in reality, such a pre-requisite has proven very difficult to simulate.

RUSSIA

Russia's Southeast Asian reactor sale/ Emil Dall, et.al

RUSI Newsbrief: Vol 35 No 6, November 2015, pp.21-22 (129)

Russia's dominance in the Southeast Asia nuclear sector makes it a key player in a region where both China and the US have strong interests.

SECURITY

Drug interdiction/ Andrew White

Military Technology: Vol.XXXIX Iss.4 2015, pp.13-17 (38)

This article takes a look at a myriad of operations, strategies and technologies in the contemporary counter-narcotics trafficking environment - from cocaine shipments in the Caribbean basin to opium trails in the Afghanistan highlands.

SOUTH CHINA SEA

The South China Sea/ Mikael Weissmann

Asian Survey: Vol.55 No.3 May/June 2015, pp.596-617 (12)

This article demonstrates transformations that have taken place in the South China Sea between 1991 and 2007. It suggests that though the transformations have weakened, it is seen that a major armed conflict is still highly unlikely.

SOUTH CHINA SEA

Managing territorial disputes: the South China Sea/ Herman Joseph S. Kraft

The Indonesian Quarterly: Vol 43 No 2, Second Quarter 2015, pp. 138-149 (30)

This article takes a look at the South China Sea disputes and explores the factors that have contributed to the intensifying situation there and the prospects for their further escalation – by considering the emergence of China as a dominant regional power, and the potential involvement of other major powers particularly the United States. It also explores the prospects of how the territorial disputes in the South China Sea can be managed in order to reduce the likelihood that these can spiral downwards into crisis and even conflict.

The US rebalance and Southeast Asia/ Sheldon W. Simon

Asian Survey: Vol.55 No.3 May/June 2015, pp.572-595 (12)

This articles assesses views from the Southeast Asia perspective on the US rebalance which includes reactions towards US military deployments, military assistance to partners, and support for Southeast Asian diplomacy on South China Sea conflicts.

TERRORISM

Recruiting by terrorist groups: children and teenagers/ Priscilla Thorn

The Journal of Counterterrorism & Homeland Security International: Summer, Vol.21 No.2 2015, pp.14-19 (29)

In this article, the author observes that children and teenagers are an ideal fit to aid in terrorist groups or organizations. Youth help alleviate staffing issues, address technological advances, slip under the radar when needed, are easier to manipulate, and enhance the impact a terroristic act could make on the general public.

TERRORISM

Regional threat watch/ Matthew Henman, et.al

Intersec: November/December 2015, pp.6-11 (69)

A collective of short articles highlighting the recent actions of some of the major terrorist groups over the last few months; considering what the future holds for countries in the APAC region; as well as evaluating the future threats that the year 2016 ahead holds.

THAILAND

Royal Thai Navy submarine ambitions: a study in realism/ Mark Farrer

Defence Review Asia: Nov 2015 Vol. 9 No. 7, pp.22-23 (146)

With Thailand's relative complex military acquisitions, this article talks about the reactions Thailand is getting regarding its ambition to acquire new submarines for its Navy.

TRANSNATIONAL CRIME

Using technology to tackle human trafficking/ Paul Stokes

Intersec: November/December 2015, pp.22 (69)

This article discusses the role that technology can play in the fight against human trafficking.

UNITED STATES

Arming the troops: a look at seven pieces of new combat gear for US soldiers/ John Antal

Military Technology: Vol XXXIX Issue 10, 2015, pp.24-29 (38)

This article takes a looks at seven US Army pieces of kit, some established and some emerging that will sharpen the ability of the infantry to create overmatch at the tactical edge of combat.

The United States army's secret to success/ Jonathan Bissell, et.al

Military Review: November-December2015, pp.85-91 (81)

Much of the success of the US Army is attributable to effective employment of its career noncommissioned officers. Encouraging foreign nations to adopt US Army techniques for developing and using an NCO corps may be an essential component for their militaries' success.

UNITED STATES

Learning from the past, looking to the future/ Mtthew Morton

This article offers a framework to aid uniformed strategic leaders in reflecting on the last decade of conflict. This framework takes into account emerging historiography, time-tested military theory and a holistic understanding of military history to help prepare officers to offer strategic advice in the future.

Military innovation and military culture/ Andrew Hill

This article examines the significance of culture as a moderator of innovation, and criticizes monolithic accounts of military resistance to innovation. It then describes a dimension of military culture focused on the concept of the ideal combatant, and how that concept relates to innovation. Military culture can be improved by: 1) engineering the competitive context for innovation, and 2) creating career paths in which new kinds of personnel have a means of advancing, while preserving enduring organizational levels.

At war with social theory: instrumental and communicative action in US military doctrine during the war on terror/ Stephen Pampinella

In this article, the author makes a comparison theories of intrumental and communicative action to US doctrine for operational design, stability operations and counterinsurgency. He argues that the people were treated as an object to be manipulated for the achievement of pre-determined self-interested strategic goals rather than members of a community that jointly designs operations to fulfill shared objectives. However, he pointed out that US doctrine does contain communicative elements that, if prioritized, would better support humanitarian and state-building objectives otherwise subordinated in the War on Terror.

UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES

Countering the unmanned aircraft systems threat/ Matthew T. Tedesco

The joint force needs a systematic approach to counter unmanned aircraft systems. How can it ensure the services are adequately trained, equipped and organized to defend against this increasing threat? In this article, six recommendations are provided.

Drones, honor and war/ Cora Sol Goldstein

Violence in war is often deemed acceptable and even honorable when direct confrontation is involved, and when opposing forces are assumed to share equivalent risks. Accordingly, some consider the use of drones in warfare as dishonorable and cowardly.

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