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**CALL FOR PAPERS**

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The Towson Journal of International Affairs is accepting submissions for publication. The submission criteria are as follows:

- The journal seeks to publish original arguments that show extensive, high-level research.
- The primary focus and argument of a submitted manuscript should lie in the field of international relations. Papers focusing on domestic politics will not be considered for publication, unless the topic is the domestic politics that surround a given country's foreign policy.
- Student papers can range from 3,000 to 7,000 words (roughly 10-25 pages), with the ideal length falling between 5,000 and 6,000 words.
- Submissions must use footnotes in accordance with the Chicago Manual of Style.
- Authors of accepted papers agree to allow the editorial board to engage in editing of the manuscript for style, although substantive changes will not be made. Authors will be given the right of final review of their manuscript, and they should expect to be in regular correspondence with the journal as their manuscript proceeds through each stage of the editing process on its way to final publication.
- Paper Format: All submissions must be double spaced, 12-point font in Times New Roman. Pages should be numbered in the bottom right corner, have 1-inch margins, with left side alignment, and the paper should have a title page. The authors' identifying information should be restricted to the cover page.
- Authors should prepare an abstract of their work of no more than 200 words.

Papers will be evaluated using both substantive and stylistic criteria. Too many problems with the written presentation of a work may disqualify it even if the argument or subject is compelling.

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**LETTER FROM THE EDITOR**

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Dear Readers,

For more than a year the world has seemingly revolved around the global pandemic, which even now, shows no signs of abating. From one perspective, this situation is novel. The world seems irrevocably changed. From another, this is merely cyclical. This is not the first pandemic and it is not even shocking that the terrifying engine of geopolitics has churned on in spite of it. This journal issue is at once: timely and reflective of the times. Edition 1 of Volume LV was assembled by a staff that wore masks every week; in it the issue of China looms large and new ground is broken on the issue of Statelessness.

In his article: *The Stirring Giant: China's Strategic Interests and Geopolitical Fault Lines*, Dwight Myvett Jr challenges prevailing conceptions of Chinese behavior and strategic objectives. He disputes the primacy of Taiwan in determining Asian hegemony, arguing that the key to Asia is instead the First Island Chain. He views this misidentification as being potentially deadly. If Taiwan does not throw control of Asia to China, it is not the issue over which to make a last stand, triggering what may be a war to end all wars.

Taryn Painter addresses a novel issue in *Framing Statelessness: Influences of the Human-Interest Media Frame on Public Attitudes Towards Statelessness in the United States*. Over 200,000 individuals are stranded in the United States with no route to citizenship and no legal means of returning to their state of origin. With research on this issue being scarce, Taryn Painter has begun filling an academic void. She identifies how American attitudes toward statelessness change when anchored in a human-interest framework, paving the way for further study and awareness.

In his article: *Chinese Investment in Africa: The Realities of Development and the Global Context*, Eric Ports calls attention to the prevailing Western narrative that China is, everywhere, up to no good. In clear prose, the Western track record in Africa is contrasted with China's, revealing an uncomfortable hypocrisy and tension. He argues that China's relationship with Africa is one of mutual benefit that makes a very sharp contrast with what the continent has experienced from Western powers so far.

Lastly, I would like to thank what has been an immensely talented staff, as well as Dr. Joseph Clark, whose expert guidance allowed those talents to flourish. We are proud to present No. 1 of Volume LV to you all.

Sincerely,  
Dwight Myvett Jr.  
Editor-in-Chief  
December 12, 2021

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And more .

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