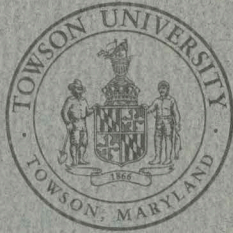


Towson University Journal of International Affairs



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Notes From the Editor:

We have recently come across several articles at the Towson University Journal of International Affairs that focus upon specific aspects of complex and current international concerns. Although they do not discuss the entirety of the issues, these perspectives are still pertinent.

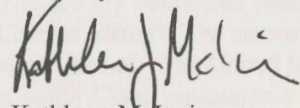
Our first article is by a graduate student at Towson University, who studies the economic perspectives of the relationship between China and the United States. The current tensions that exist between the United States and China are worth discussing on every possible level. Although it chooses not to examine the issues of Tibet and Taiwan or the human rights violations in China, the complexity that exists within a purely economic analysis is certainly enough to examine within one article.

The second article, "The Faults of Dual Containment" was written by an Iranian student that attended Towson University. Even though it was written some time ago, this dual containment article reflects our author's viewpoint at that time, and still bears weight on the issue today, especially when one considers the current difficulties with Iran and OPEC.

Our third article, which focuses on China and Central Asia, is a comprehensive article written by an undergraduate student at the University of Maryland, College Park. We have felt that it discusses important issues regarding this emerging situation. Finally, this issue re-examines one of the basic tenets of realism with a return to the balance of power in our fourth article, "Distinctive Theory or Theoretical Dispute: Revisiting the Balance of Power."

The Towson University Journal of International Affairs hopes that you find that these articles bring to light specific points of the complex issues facing this ever-shrinking world.

Sincerely,



Kathleen McInnis
Editor-In-Chief
Towson University Journal of
International Affairs