

LETTER

FROM THE EDITOR

In the past few decades, developments in Asia have questioned the paradigms of the post-World War II era. China's rise has challenged the primacy of the US-led Western order. South Korea, Singapore and Taiwan's paths to first-world living standards have been in contrast to the 'Washington Consensus' development model. The formation of ASEAN has created a forum for regional cooperation which has, in conjunction with Japan, China and South Korea, created an alternative to the IMF through the Asian Monetary Fund.

In the same vein, Asian universities can begin to challenge the preeminence of US and European academia. Coming from one of East Asia's premier universities, *Papers, Essays and Reviews* aims to be at the forefront of that wave. Student-run journals are not yet prevalent in Asia, meaning that many

young scholars are unaware of this type of medium. PEAR, as one of the first journals of its kind in the region, provides an outlet for their work. One of our main goals at this point in our short history is to increase the number of Asian institutions represented in the journal. In this way, we will be able to present a variety of perspectives, allowing our readers around the world to better understand what is happening in Asian universities as well as other centers of academia.

This, the fourth issue of PEAR, features topics covering South America, Africa, the US and Europe as well as Asia. We have decided to remain non-thematic in order to be able to incorporate a wider range of views. In the *Papers* section, the issue of migration is dealt with from two different perspectives. In her paper, Joanna Drozd looks at the process of supranationalization of immigration policy in Spain, which occurred due to the eventual convergence of national preferences and EU policy. Brandon Boylan focuses on the integration of Muslim immigrants in the US and the EU, concluding that the experience of such immigrants has been better in the US.

Ethiopian intervention in the recent Somali conflict is examined by Braden Civins, who is critical of its effects. Carolina Forero uses econometric data to determine the effect of market openness on employment conditions in Colombia, arriving at surprising findings. Finally in our *Papers* section, Andrew Riplinger and Dr. Antonio Morales-Pita analyze the debate surrounding the administration of a potential climate change adaptation fund, concluding that the UN is a better candidate than the World Bank.

Our *Essays* section includes an unusual piece in Hannah Kim's dissection of the portrayal of Asian women in the arts. The other essay looks at China's extensive resource investment from a realist perspective. We also have a first for PEAR in that we are including a movie review in the final section of the journal. Jennie Choe provides an interesting take on *71: Into the Fire*, which tells the little-known story of a group of young South Korean soldiers in the Korean War, while Ryo Kato offers a review of Ken Kawashima's latest book on Korean laborers in Japan, *The Proletarian Gamble*. Finally, Jenny Kim critiques David Kang's analysis of China's rise in *China Rising*.

While the review and essay sections of journals are often overlooked, it is here that the most interesting pieces are often found. As Benjamin J. Cohen recently noted in the *International Studies Quarterly*, many journals have come to overemphasize narrow areas of research at the expense of writing that exposes the bigger picture. We at PEAR would like to encourage would-be contributors to place a greater emphasis on reviews and essays. Such pieces help

the reader to link research in broad areas of study, identify weaknesses in current research and recognize areas for further research. I hope that this call will be heard so that we can include a larger number of essays and reviews in our next issue.

In the process of putting together the fourth issue of PEAR, I have had the great pleasure to read a number of outstanding submissions, work with dedicated and talented people, and gain the rewarding sense of being part of an important project in Asian academia. It would of course not have been possible without the support of Yonsei University GSIS, and in particular the support of Dean Chung Min Lee and Professor Matthias Maass. I hope our readers will enjoy the contributions and continue to support PEAR.

Stephan Gill
Editor in Chief