

LETTER

FROM THE EDITOR

As the first half of 2014 has passed, we behold that conflicts between states and within society have erupted internationally and domestically. At the same time, the role of law and order striving for stability and peace is observed. Internationally, tension is escalating between Russia and Ukraine over control of the Crimean Peninsula, and other countries including the US have become involved through various economic and political means to resolve the conflict. Domestically in South Korea, while the whole nation is deep in sorrow due to the sinking of the Sewol ferry in April 2014, political and social reactions against the government have become widespread; however, still we see some institutional efforts have been made to improve the system. Although conflicts might contain negative consequences, when the role of law and order is well played it can generate progress and improvement, and this issue of the Yonsei Journal of International Studies titled “Law and Order” provides a variety of papers, essays, and reviews to ponder upon this theme.

In regards to papers, Cameron J. Gable’s “The US Drone Policy under the Obama Administration: A Critical Appraisal” examines the increased use of drone under the Obama administration during conflicts by studying the factors that have propelled to use drones, its implication for American and international law, and American foreign policy. Jie Gao and Sean J. McLaughlin’s “Brushed Past: US-CCP Relations, 1941-45” explores the controversial “lost chance theory” and compares two views on the theory. They argue that early pioneers were correct in their assessments of the sincerity of Mao’s wartime expressions of his desire to work with the US, but the revisionists were also right to claim that relations had become so poisoned by late 1945 and early 1946 that there was no will on either side for cooperation. Joanna K. Rozpedowski’s “National Se-

curity Imperatives in an Era of Environmentally-Induced Conflicts, Population Displacements, and Political Disequilibria” touches upon recent concern with environmental issues to which an ever-increasing amount of attention has been paid to in the field of international studies. It closely investigates the security implications resulting from global climate change and assesses the geopolitical dimension of the relationship between environmental degradation and armed conflict. Dylan Stent’s “The Practice of Duality: Why the Trans-Pacific Partnership and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership are Competing Paradigms in Asia” presents that given political theory has largely led to a stagnation of enlightening scholarship, we must turn to sociology for an answer. Through a Bourdieuan exploration of the TPP and the RCEP, this paper shows that divergent habitus is causing complementary regional building initiatives in the region. Ted Voelkel’s “Transient Professionals: Local NGO Empowerment” argues that a lack of official recognition of the organization by the South Korean government can be seen as the proverbial straw that broke the back of the Association of Teachers of English in Korea (ATEK).

In regard to essays, Geoffrey Fattig’s “Only Words on Paper? Freedom of Speech & Expression in South Korea” provides an overview of the media climate in South Korea along with the attempts made by various administrations to stifle dissenting viewpoints. Brandon K. Gauthier’s “The American-Korean Friendship and Information Center and North Korean Public Diplomacy, 1971-1976” details the history of the American-Korean Friendship and Information Center (AKFIC) in New York City, a North Korean funded “anti-imperialist peace organization” that sought to generate public support for the DPRK and force the withdrawal of American forces from the Korean peninsula. Abhishek Kumar and Vikram Singh’s “A Study of Transitional Development in Delay in Delivery of Justice, Which Results into Declining Faith in Judiciary: Reasons and Future” examines the ground reality of poor people who are in need of proper solutions to their problems which has to be dealt by the institutes outside their immediate family. Tania Sebastian’s “Celebrated Publishers Propagate ‘Information Feudalism’” deals with the conflict that has arisen as publishers filed lawsuits against a photocopier at Delhi University for unauthorized reproduction and issuance of copies of their academic publications and analyses the shortcoming of the arguments of the publishers, while connecting the situation with a description of the characteristics of feudalism.

In this issue, we had the pleasure to conduct an interview with Joel Wit who served as Coordinator for the US-North Korea’s weapons program and for the US-North Korea Agreed Framework from 1995-1999. He has also written numerous articles on North Korea and nonproliferation and is the coauthor of

the book *Going Critical: The First North Korean Nuclear Crisis*. In interview, as Wit emphasizes engagements with North Korea and more agreements in diverse areas such as security and economy, he gives his view on changes in South Korea's North Korea policy since Lee Myung-Bak's administration and underscores the cooperation between South Korea and the US approaching the North.

Scott Lichtenstein provides a review of the recent and extremely popular *Flash Boys: A Wall Street Revolt* by Michael Lewis, a work that follows a small group of traders and their efforts to deal with an "unfair" market dealing with high frequency trading. His review highlights both the contributions of Lewis's work to the discussions around Wall Street in the post-crisis World and the limitations of this criticism.

In concluding, the present issue is my last publication as editor in chief. Working for *Yonsei Journal of International Studies* has offered me opportunities to learn about various subjects in academia and to meet people with a wide range of interests throughout my time at Yonsei GSIS. Serving two years, I have been always excited to have our journal to touch upon diverse topics with authors' contributions from all over the world. I would like to thank all of staff members' hard work and especially co-chief editor Eric Watson's contribution to enriching the journal. I hope you all enjoy reading!



Eunsil Park
Editor in Chief

I need to express my sincere thanks to the contributors for their thought provoking submissions and our readers for their interest in our journal; this is the 5th anniversary of *The Yonsei Journal of International Studies* and we are looking forward to sharing many more years with everyone. One final note, I would like to wish the best of luck to Eunsil Park with whom I have studied and worked with, and am deeply thankful for all her help and effort throughout the years. May success find you in all your future endeavors.



Eric Watson
Editor in Chief