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The Political and Security Drivers of the International System until 2030 and Drawing Scenarios for Iran

Seyedjalal Dehgani firozabadi¹

Seyedreza Mousavinia²

Firoze Radfar³

Rapid international developments have proved the necessity of future studies for governments, and securing national interests in the international environment requires a proper understanding of this environment and preparation for upcoming developments. In this article, we intend to extract the key political-security drivers in the international system's environment and draw scenarios for the Islamic Republic of Iran with the method of future research and scenario writing techniques. The research's findings show that the role of new figures of power, the emergence of hybrid wars, increasing the role of new technologies, growing regional instability, strengthening the role of disruptive players and increasing military investments are the strongest drivers which will be shaping the future of the international environment in the political and security arena until 2030. Against this backdrop, for the Islamic Republic of Iran, the following scenarios are relevant: The great power competition at the international and regional level until 2030 is a favorable scenario; Increasing the role of hybrid wars (cyber, cognitive wars) until 2030 is the preferred scenario; Strengthening the role of civil societies, international public opinion and the media as deterrents to militarism until 2030, would be a tolerable scenario; Finally, growing political and security instability in the world until 2030 would be an undesirable scenario.

Keywords

Iran's foreign policy, future studies, drivers, probable future, scenario, political security environment.

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Analysis of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran based on Foreign Policy Identifier

Ali Navazeni¹

The Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which determines the legal and political system of the country, is the result of the will of the leadership and value elites, and provides commitments to achieve national and religious goals, and defines the scope of powers and responsibilities of foreign policy-related bodies and institutions. The question of the current research is what position does the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran have in the constitution from the perspective of the founders of the constitution? To address this question, the research employs a combined research method (quantitative and qualitative) based on the content analysis method (using MaxQuda software) and also to collect data, semi-structured interview and library methods were used. The findings of the research showed that from the point of view of the founders of the constitution, categories such as "institutional structures", "law and rights" and "religion of Islam" respectively have the most importance and connection with foreign policy. Also, in the context of the frequency of words used in the constitution related to institutions affecting foreign policy and the words related to each, respectively, executive power, leadership, legislative power, from the point of view of the founders of the constitution, they have the most influence on foreign policy. This indicates that the main responsible for accountability in the field of foreign policy is the executive branch.

Keywords

foreign policy, constitution, content analysis, Max Kyuda, Islamic Republic of Iran.

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Algorithmic Foreign Policy; The Contribution of Artificial Intelligence in the Decision-Making Process

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Today, the confluence of technological advances, including smart sensors, high-speed computers, algorithms, and artificial intelligence, has faced the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of countries with completely new conditions. In the age of artificial intelligence, instead of decision-makers gathering to discuss how to respond to an unfolding crisis, a new space is gradually opening up for intelligent machines to empower experts with their inferences, evidence, and scenarios at unprecedented speed. Focusing on such developments, the aim of the current research is to answer the key question: "How does artificial intelligence affect the decision-making process of foreign policy?" The primary answer to this question is that "artificial intelligence, by making a transformation in the process of problem identification, collecting and analyzing information and providing predictions and suggestions, leads the foreign policy decision-making process towards intelligence, creativity and activism. " The results of this research, which was carried out in a descriptive-analytical method and in the form of Simon's decision-making model theory, show that artificial intelligence can improve the decision-making process of foreign policy through analytical data mining methods; network, cluster and semantic analysis; identifying and predicting trends and policy recommendations.

Keywords

artificial intelligence, data mining, decision making, algorithmic foreign policy, big data, international competition.

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U.S.'s Strategic Pivot to East Asia and Iran's Foreign Policy Requirements

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The story of the strategic pivot of the United States of America towards Asia, during Barack Obama's administration took on a more serious trend. Obama was trying to navigate America's attention and resources towards Asia-Pacific in general and East Asia in particular. Therefore, the main question in this research is what is the position of political and economic, military and technological components in the U.S. pivot to Asia? The research's hypothesis is that the focal point of the American approach is to contain and manage the growing power of China in the political, economic and security fields and to influence and manage the structures and finally the political, economic, security and technological outputs of the East Asian environment. From the point of view of Iran's foreign policy, this research suggests that in the new structure created as a result of the strategic pivot, in addition to the conflict of interests, a kind of overlap of interests is also developed between the actors. This is important in the interaction of actors, including the Islamic Republic of Iran, considering its special relations with the U.S. and China. This research employs an analytical descriptive method to explain and understand the causes and fundamental factors and the reasons and superstructure factors of the U.S. strategic pivot.

Keywords

strategic pivot, East Asia, America, China, Iran.

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Dual spatialization of Diplomacy: A study on U.S. Diplomacy

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This research shows the impact of the "Instant Communication Revolution" (ICR) and the development of cyberspace and the dual spatialization of the world on diplomacy, and while studying the broad, chaotic, non-spatial and non-temporal consequences of the development of virtual space on the institution, the structure of diplomacy and also the process of adapting diplomacy to the virtual environment, It has investigated the impact of the real-virtual dual space on American diplomacy.

Therefore, the main question of this research is, what effect has the "dual -spatialization of the world" had on diplomacy, and specifically on the diplomacy of the United States of America? The hypothesis of the research is that diplomacy, due to its communicative nature, has historically been influenced by developments in communication technology, and ICR as the latest development in communication technology, with dual spatialization of the world and formation of parallel worlds, has caused a series of noticeable changes in the concepts of institution, structure and methods of diplomacy operation, including; faster speed and lower cost of diplomacy, the emergence of new actors, priority of global issues over bilateral issues, as well as the emergence of new branches of diplomacy, including; Digital Diplomacy, Public Diplomacy, Cyber Diplomacy, and Twiplomacy. This article employs a mixed research method including "case study" and "comparative historical analysis" to study the consequences of the dual spatialization of the world on the diplomacy of the United States of America.

Keywords

Dual Spacization, Diplomacy, U.S.A., Internet, Digital Revolution.

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Turkey's Policy in the Ukraine Crisis; Balancing and Maximum Efficiency

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The Ukraine crisis is one of the most important crises in Europe after World War II, which has become a place of conflict between major and regional powers. Turkey, as one of the regional powers in the Middle East and geopolitically connected to the heart of the conflict, seeks to play a strategic role in this crisis. This research employs a descriptive-analytical method of neoclassical realism perspective to answer the question of what variables have shaped Turkey's foreign policy towards the Ukraine war? The hypothesis of the research is that Turkey's policy towards the Ukraine crisis is a balanced and interest-driven policy based on internal variables (AKP, strategic culture, nationalism, eastern identity, western values) and external variables (membership in NATO, European Union, relations with the United States, different geopolitics) have been shaped. Therefore, while playing the role of a mediator between the two sides of the conflict, on the one hand, Turkey has provided military-security support to Ukraine due to its membership in NATO, and on the other hand, it has maintained extensive relations with Russia and has not followed the sanctions against this country. Therefore, Turkey, as one of the main powers in the Middle East, sees the Ukraine crisis as a prime opportunity to play a greater role in Europe, seeking membership in the European Union, more cooperation with Russia, and playing a balanced policy in this crisis.

Keywords

Neoclassical realism, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine, NATO.

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Kurdistan Region's Position in China's Foreign Policy towards Iraq

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After the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003 and the formation of the Kurdish Autonomous Regions, major global and regional players sought to strengthen relations and expand the sphere of influence in the Kurdistan Region. As China-Iraq trade relations have been growing since 2003, the Chinese state-owned enterprises have established a trade-oriented relationship with the Kurdistan Region through official channels including the Iraqi Ministry of Oil and informal channels such as leaders of big companies. As China became the world's largest oil importer in 2013, it has taken swift measures to expand its role in Iraq through the central government and the Kurdistan region. Therefore, like other global players, Iraq has been key to China's Persian Gulf policy. In this context, the main question of present research is, what is the position of the Kurdistan Region in China's foreign policy towards Iraq? It seems that Beijing has followed the strengthening of economic relations with the Kurdistan Region by observing principles such as territorial integrity and sovereignty of Iraq and avoiding security-military issues and interference in the internal politics of this country. The findings of the research, by applying a qualitative method based on descriptive analysis, show that China seeks to expand the multifaceted trade relationship including investment and providing infrastructure as well as scientific-cultural exchanges with the Kurdistan Region, while unlike other great powers, it has not pursued a security-military and interventionist agenda. Unlike other great powers, it has not pursued a security-military and interventionist agenda.

Keywords

China, Kurdistan region, Iraq, territorial integrity, economic cooperation.

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Oman's Position in India's Economic Diplomacy

(from 2014 to 2021)

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Economic diplomacy is an efficient strategy for governments to maximize their achievements and retain a better position in the international arena and in the world economy. Following this approach, since the Bharatiya Janata Party came to power in 2014, India has tried to expand its relation with Persian Gulf countries, including Oman. The relations between the two countries have been characterized by historical ties and various dimensions such as economic, political, technical and military. India also has adopted a developmental foreign approach to increase its geopolitical weight by leveraging its export of technical, engineering power and growing energy market. Against this backdrop, the main question of present research is, What are the strategy and goals of India's economic diplomacy in relations with Oman? The research's findings, by applying a qualitative method based on descriptive analysis, show that India under Modi's Government, by prioritizing economic development and pursuing economic diplomacy, aims to meet its energy needs, attract more investment and export its technical and engineering and defense capabilities. In this context, New Delhi has drawn a strategic partnership with Muscat.

Keywords

Interdependence, conomic diplomacy, India, Oman.

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