U.S. Military Strategy Since Vietnam

John Mueller

Jokowi’s Generals, Civilian Control, and the Power of the Panglima

Natalie Sambhi

ASEAN “in” Security Community

Muhammad Rosyidin

China’s Role in Global Governance in the Post COVID-19 Era

Zhang Yun

Japan’s Remilitarization Struggle Since the Shinzo Abe’s Leadership

Muhammad Arif Prabowo

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NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Yohanes Sulaiman

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Dear readers:

It is with great pleasure that we present this issue of the Journal of Global Strategic Studies. It is hard to believe that we are now commemorating the third year of our journal. We are thankful for your continuous patronage, and constant support from our editorial board, editorial teams, authors, and reviewers. We hope that we will be able to keep offering you high quality publications from established and up-coming scholars in our fields of Political Science, notably International Relations and Comparative Politics.

In this issue, we are honored to again publish a work by John Mueller, one of the most esteemed scholars in International Relations. As usual, Mueller offers a thought-provoking piece that provides a vantage point of the United States’ evolving military strategies to deal with challenges from Vietnam to Iraq, to its fight against ISIS, and presently, in trying to deal with the aftermath of Russia’s invasion to Ukraine. Here, Mueller argues that the United States is successful in achieving its goals by pursuing a restrained military policy that provide advice, supplies, and intelligence, in support of local, indigenous forces. In contrast, its all-out military interventions such as its invasions on Afghanistan and Iraq only leads to defeat.

Natalie Sambhi, who studies the dynamics of civil-military relationship, notably on the relationship between a civilian president and the military chiefs, wrote our second article. In this case study on Indonesia, Sambhi looks at the politicization at the selection of Indonesia’s Panglima, its military chief, and how the president’s level of control over selection of the military chief and the chief’s behaviour varied with personality factors and timing.

Our third article comes from Mohamad Rosyidin, who uses constructivism to analyzes how arms modernization among several states in Southeast Asia hinders ASEAN’s collective identity building as the arms mobilization tends to preserve culture of
individualism and sharpens strategic rivalry among Southeast Asian states themselves. He suggests that ASEAN should prioritize collective identity building first than focusing on arming themselves.

Zhang Yun wrote our fourth article on China’s role in global governance. He argues that despite of growing China’s clout and power, China is still unable to assume a leading role in global governance due to its lack of capability and its own disinclination to assume a leading role. He points out that the Belt and Road Initiatives will be a very useful vehicle for China to use to contribute positively to global governance by providing public goods.

Finally, last but not the least, Muhammad Arif Prabowo shows in his article how growing threats from China influences Japan’s decision to remilitarize. In turn, growing conflicts between China and Japan changes public perception itself, pushing for growing support for remilitarization.

As we embark on the next chapter of our journal’s journey, again we invite you to join us in celebrating this milestone of the third year of our publication and to engage with the remarkable collection of articles presented within these pages. We are confident that they will inspire you, challenge your perspectives, and stimulate further research and dialogue in the captivating field of international relations.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the Journal of Global Strategic Studies. Thank you for your willingness to read this note. Here’s to many more years of insightful scholarship, impactful research, and fostering a deeper understanding of our interconnected world.

Cimahi and Bandung,
June 2023

Yohanes Sulaiman
Executive Editor
NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE EDITOR ....................................................... ii
CONTENT ........................................................................................................ iv

U.S. MILITARY STRATEGY SINCE VETNAM: The 9/11 WARS AS
ABERRATIONS by John Mueller ................................................................. 1

JOKOWI’S GENERALS, CIVILIAN CONTROL, AND THE POWER OF THE
PANGLIMA by Natalie Sambhi ................................................................. 21

ASEAN (IN)SECURITY COMMUNITY: ARMS MODERNIZATION AND
COLLECTIVE IDENTITY BUILDING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA by Mohamad
Rosyidin ...................................................................................................... 43

CHINA’S ROLE IN GLOBAL GOVERNANCE IN THE POST-COVID-19 ERA by
Zhang Yun ............................................................................................... 67

JAPAN’S REMILITARIZATION STRUGGLE SINCE THE SHINZO ABE’S
LEADERSHIP by Muhammad Arif Prabowo ............................................. 79