

From the Editor's Desk

You're probably tired of hearing about President Donald Trump day after day. Quite frankly, we are too. A bi-annual publication like *International Affairs Review* cannot add to the political deluge of outrage and counter-outrage that restarts almost hourly. Instead, we seek to contribute something different; something a little more considered and even-handed.

As graduate students, we are gifted with what many policymakers do not have: time to think deeply. Time allows us to critically examine the nuances and challenges of foreign affairs. It allows us to experiment with and develop novel solutions that haven't been thought of yet. It allows us to methodically gather facts that support and sometimes refute our preconceptions, so that we can present policy recommendations based in truth and fact.

We still believe that carefully crafted analyses, like those written by our authors, represent the most hopeful contribution to bettering our world. Grace Chesson, Horacio Oliveira, Sara Chaney Reichenbach, and Anne Margaret A. Wagner offer a complex picture of al-Shabaab's criminal network in Somalia. Songye Jung makes a compelling case for Indonesian low-carbon development. Adam Yefet analyzes Iran's involvement in non-state violence. Zhizhen Lu comments on China's nationalistic policy and its future in the global system. Finally, Amara Manoogian and her colleagues analyze US and Russian cooperation to combat female recruitment into ISIL.

As always, this work would be impossible without the skill and dedication of our editors and authors. We thank you all for your tireless work in writing, editing, and assembling this journal. Our jobs would be impossible without your work.

Jackson Doering *Editor-in-Chief*
Allen Tullos *Managing Editor*