Democracy & Energy in the Age of Globalization

Cleaning Up After Clean Energy: Hazardous Waste in the Solar Industry
Ishan Nath

International Law and the Ethics of Antiquities Trafficking
Dr. Patrick Hunt

Drivers of Satisfaction with Democracy in Africa
Lexi Shechtel

The French Connection: Comparing French and American Civilian Nuclear Energy Programs
Rahul Sastry and Bennett Siegel
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The Winter/Spring 2010 issue of the *Stanford Journal of International Relations* entitled “Energy and Democracy in the Age of Globalization” examines two different topics, alternative energy and climate change and how democracy responds to different pressures. It emphasizes the challenges of addressing climate change as well as the problems related to convincing world leaders to act on those challenges. In addition, this issue of the *Journal* explores how democracy is shaped and emerges in different societies.

First, this issue examines the challenges posed by the growth of the solar cell industry internationally. Although many people have lauded the role of solar power in tackling climate change, few have discussed the issue of toxic waste emerging from this now global industry. In his paper, Ishan Nath does just that, exploring the issue particularly as it pertains to China. Two authors, Rahul Sastry and Bennett Siegel then explore the differences between the nuclear power sectors of the United States and France and why the United States has such limited nuclear power capacity in comparison.

Next, this issue launches into the issue of the development of democracy by exploring how international factors helped shape the rise of Chilean democracy. In his paper, Alejandro Ortega argues that international actors were crucial to destabilizing the tail end of Pinochet’s regime. We then turn to Arsani William’s paper on the use of Sharia law in Britain and Canada and how it is damaging to shared values of human rights in those countries.

Lexi Shechtel then brings us a paper on the determinants of African democracy using data from the Afrobarometer survey, one of the few consistent surveys of attitudes about democracy in Africa. We then hear from Eunice Buhler about how Israel’s counterterrorism ordinance actually improves the quality of Israel’s democracy by ensuring the security of its citizens.

Finally, for this issue’s special section, Editors in Chief Adrienne Bryan and Otis Reid interviewed Michael McFaul, the senior director of Russian and Eurasian Affairs at the United States National Security Council about the US-Russia relationship, a topic of particular interest after the recent signing of a nuclear missile treaty in Prague. Editor in Chief Adrienne Bryan and Managing Editor Katie White also interviewed Mary Robinson, the former President of Ireland and United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, discussing her experience as executive and subsequently as a campaigner for global human rights.

In addition, we bring a special perspective from Philippe de Koning, who attended the Copenhagen Climate Conference and writes about the need to view climate change as an international security threat. We also have a piece from Professor Patrick Hunt about the problem of international antiquities trafficking.

We look forward to continuing to publish fantastic papers and we would also like to thank all of our readers for a great year as Editors in Chief. Have a wonderful summer!

*Otis Reid & Adrienne Bryan*
Editors in Chief
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