



Charhar Newsletter

THE CHARHAR INSTITUTE

Nov. 2017

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On Oct.27, **Dr Han Fangming**, chairman of the Charhar Institute, gave a keynote address, titled “Prospect of China’s Diplomatic Landscape in an New Era as an Emerging Global Power”, at the Lien International Conference on Good Governance organized by Nanyang Technological University. He remarked that changes to China’s diplomatic landscape in the future can be concluded as “diplomatic confidence, diplomatic self-awareness, diplomatic self-esteem, and

diplomatic self-empowerment.”

On Oct. 27, **Zhang Guobin**, secretary-general of the Charhar Institute, attended the National Day and Armed Forces Day Reception hosted by Embassy of the Republic of Korea in China. Mr Zhang conveyed Dr Han Fangming’s congratulations, and His Excellency **Noh Young-min** thanked the Charhar Institute for its prolonged commitment to friendly cooperation between China and South Korea.



On Oct. 26, Seminar on China-South Korea Policies was held in Incheon, South Korea. As an important part of 2017 InChina Forum, it was jointly organized by the Charhar Institute, the government of Incheon Metropolitan City, and Inha University. **Wang Chong**, deputy secretary-general of the Charhar Institute, **Deng Yuwen**, senior fellow at the Charhar Institute, and **Wang Peng**, research fellow at the Charhar Institute, took part in the seminar and spoke on U.S, China and South Korea relations, China-South Korea relations, and North Korea’s nuclear development.



On Oct. 26, at third “National Knowledge” Youth Cutting Edge Lecture, **Luo Xiaoping**, associate professor at Peking University talked about current situation, problem, and solutions to migration in the global context. **Luo Yuze**, a research fellow, presented fresh notions on movements of industries in the global context from a macroeconomic perspective. Another research fellow, **Zhi Zhenfeng** brought up his opinions on refugee problem and illegal

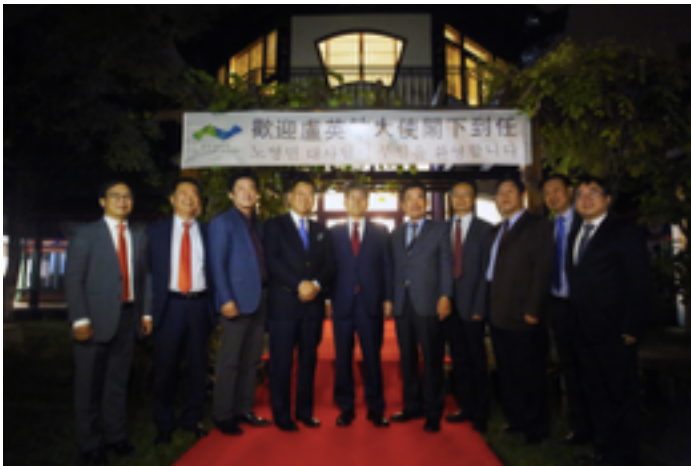
immigration. The “National Knowledge” Youth Cutting Edge Lecture Series is cosponsored by the Charhar Institute, Peking University School of International Affairs, and *the Journal of International Studies*.

On Oct. 25, the Charhar Institute's representative group visited Incheon. During their visit, at Incheon InChina Forum welcoming banquet, which was also the China-South Korea “Good Friend” communication conference, **Wu Sike**, member of International Advisory Committee of the Charhar Institute, was awarded “Good Friend” medal by the governor of Incheon Metropolitan City. The medal was to thank Mr Wu, to enhance the friendship between Incheon and Chinese cities, and to promote vitalization of business communications.



On Oct.25, Seoul Media Institute of Technology announced the appointment of **Wang Chong** as adjunct professor, for his excellence in new media diplomacy, international affairs research and development of think-tank.

On Oct. 20, second “National Knowledge” Youth Cutting Edge Lecture, “Global Climate Governance: Current Situation and Trend” featuring **Wang Binbin**, postdoctoral researcher of international politics, took place at Peking University. **Wang Chong and Wang Yizhou**, vice dean of School of International Affairs at Peking University gave welcome remarks. Ms Wang argued that current situation of global climate governance had entered a new period of transitions in leadership and emissions reduction. Panelists agreed to the notion. The lecture was delivered to a group of postdoctoral researchers, Ph.D students, M.A. students, and scholars .



On Oct. 15, the Charhar Institute hosted a welcome dinner for His Excellency **Noh Young-min** at its Beijing office. It was first non-official foreign affairs event for Mr Noh after he was inaugurated. Both sides agreed that the dinner was a groundbreaking “poem diplomacy” and literary gathering that promoted friendship between China and South Korea. **Dr Han Fangming** gave Mr Noh a piece of calligraphy work called

“No Cloud Autumn Moon”, which was written by a Chinese master artist, as a present. Mr Noh said “No Cloud Autumn Moon” had always been his aspiration.

On Oct.12, the State Information Center’s Institute for Belt and Road Big Data released *Big Data Report on Belt and Road Progress*. The Charhar Institute ranked third on the influence of social think-tanks list. It is one of the most influential social think tanks in China.



On Oct.11, **Dr Han Fangming** met with **William Klein**, Envoy and Political Minister Counselor at Embassy of the United States in China. Mr Klein said the relationship between China and the United States is one of the world's most important international relationships. He noticed Charhar Institute's researches and practices in addressing Northeast Asia situations. He hoped Chinese and American think-tanks can strengthen communication on relevant issues. Mr Klein looked forward to President Donald Trump's trip to China. Both sides exchanged opinions on China-U.S relations, North Korea's nuclear threat and other subjects, and agreed that China and the U.S needed to preserve the current stable relations between the two countries by strengthening cooperation in a wide variety of fields and enhancing communication and understanding.



On Oct. 11, **Zhang Guobin** met with **Li Cunchang**, president of Mauritius Chinese Chamber, in Beijing. Mr Li commented positively on Charhar Institute launching an office in Mauritius in April. Both sides exchanged opinions on China-Mauritius relations, cooperation in the NGO world, and co-construction of smart city. Both sides agreed to strengthen communication, develop cooperation, promote better China-Mauritius relations, push forward deep level

exchanges and cooperation in a wide array of fields, and deepen the friendship between Chinese and Mauritians.

On Oct. 10, His Excellency **Noh Young-min**, the South Korean ambassador to China under the Moon Jae-in government arrived in Beijing. **Zhang Guobin** went to the airport to welcome Mr Noh and conveyed warm regards on behalf of **Dr Han Fangming**. Mr Noh said he was very glad to be the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to China, and gave out his first Chinese business card to Mr Zhang.



On Oct. 10, **Dr Han Fangming** and **Yu Hongjun**, former vice minister of the International Department of the CPC Central Committee and chief fellow at the Charhar Institute, met with **Guo Weifeng**, chairman of China Review News Agency, a think tank and a news agency founded in Hong Kong. Deputy secretary-generals of the Charhar Institute **Wang Chong** and **Ma Wensheng** participated in the meeting. Both sides agreed to further cooperation.



Trump may hurt his own DPRK plan by embarrassing Iran

By Wang Peng October 20, 2017

Source : APD News



After more than nine months in office, the American President Donald Trump seems to make few diplomatic achievements. But now, perhaps he has found a breakthrough by ramping up a new Iran policy.

A few days ago, during and after the UN General Assembly, Trump approved the long-awaited strategy to deal with the Iranian issue, which outlines a new aggressive approach to countering Iran's threats all over the world and endeavors to use the leverage of Trump's threats over the Iran nuclear deal, or Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), to spur U.S. allies to begin to address its flaws.

The deal/JCPOA is widely regarded as a milestone of the Middle East security and nuclear arrangement. The American Congress requires regular notification from the administration that Iran is complying with the agreement that was reached two years ago with the United States and five other world powers to limit its nuclear program for peaceful purposes. Now everything is well. No evidence proves Iran has violated the deal.

But Trump announced new sanctions against Iran and threatened to terminate the 2015 nuclear agreement with the country in a militarist speech at the White House. 'Iran is not living up to the spirit of the deal,' as he emphasized.

Reviewing the 'President Donald J. Trump's New Strategy on Iran' published by White House later, it is clear that Trump has put the clock back before Obama Administration by threatening to tear up JCPOA and imposing tougher sanctions against Iran.

The centerpiece of Trump's new Iran strategy is twofold. The one is to include the limits to Iran's (ballistic) missiles research and development. The other is to target to Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC). Although Trump did not regard IRGC as a terrorist organization in the White House document, the same category as al Qaeda or the Islamic State, he called for new "tough sanctions" imposed on IRGC and called it 'corrupt terror force'.

As expected, Iran turned angry against Trump's provocation immediately. So are the other 5 parties involved in the JCPOA, namely, Russia, China, UK, France, and Germany.

Putin warns Trump's administration not to pull out of the Iran nuclear deal - saying America's withdrawal would harm 'predictability, security, stability and non-proliferation around the world'. The Kremlin also warned that should the US leave the pact, Iran would be likely to quit the agreement as well.

Germany, an important ally of America in Europe, also show negative response to Trump's threats against Iran. As experts commented this event may aggravate German/Europe-American tensions to certain degree.

From Chinese perspective of view, the most negative effects may be caused by Trump's new Iran policy may lie in the issue of denuclearization in Korean Peninsula.

China has offered the 'double suspension' proposal to both Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and America. The prerequisite of the running of 'double suspension' relies on the minimum mutual trust between the two countries.

However, now Trump's behavior without any basic sense of 'international strategic credibility' will clearly remind the DPRK that they must avoid falling into the same old trap again. The DPRK's regime has more valid excuses to steadfast their determination to develop nuclear and ballistic missiles.

In addition, since the rising tensions between America and Iran in the Middle East will undoubtedly exhaust the national strength and strategic focus of America, Trump's threat to

Pyongyang will lose its credibility. Empty threat does not make any sense in resolving the nuclear issue.

So it is safe to say that the US move against the nuclear deal would have very negative consequences and would seriously aggravate the situation around the Iranian nuclear dossier, as well as the DPRK nuclear issue from thousands of miles away.

The author is a research fellow at the Charhar Institute and at Fudan University's China Institute.

India's review of China relations overdue

By Long Xingchun October 18,2017 Source : Global Times



Illustration: Liu Rui/GT

According to The Indian Express, India's Standing Committee on External Affairs will "examine the whole gamut of Sino-Indian relations," including "the issue of 'cooperation' between India and China in international organizations," "India's bid for a permanent membership of the UN Security Council and entry to the NSG (Nuclear Suppliers Group)," "Pakistan-based terrorists" and other disputes between Beijing and New Delhi in recent years.

However, these enquiries are far from enough when it comes to correctly understanding and defining the Sino-Indian relationship. New Delhi must evaluate whether Beijing is a friend, a competitor, or an enemy strategically, which determines how India sees China and China's actions, so as to formulate its China policy.

For a long time, India has treated China as a major threat to its national security. However, as the world's second-largest economy, China is a major partner of New Delhi and plays a crucial role in the latter's economic development. With China's support, India's pursuit of major-power status can proceed more smoothly; otherwise, it will be very difficult to realize. Therefore, a proper policy toward Beijing is related not only to India's security and development, but also to its great power dream.

The recent decision of an overall evaluation of Sino-Indian relations is obviously relevant to the recent Doklam standoff, the worst row between the two in 55 years, which brought them to

the brink of war. India sent its army to Doklam citing concerns over the Siliguri Corridor's security. Apparently, the move was made by treating Beijing as New Delhi's enemy.

As the Chinese navy increases its activities and presence in the Indian Ocean, many small countries of the Indian Ocean rim such as Sri Lanka, the Maldives and the Seychelles do not see it as a threat. Yet India, more powerful than the others, deems it as a menace while trying to get closer to the US and Japan to take precautions against it. While Nepal and Bhutan treat China's infrastructure construction in the border areas of the Tibet Autonomous Region as an opportunity, New Delhi felt it was threatened.

Most of India's neighbors in South Asia also share borders with China. Those nations need not only friendly cooperation with New Delhi but also collaboration with Beijing and other countries.

Nevertheless, since India regards China as a threat, the latter's mutually beneficial cooperation with South Asian nations is considered as a move to encircle and contain the former, which leads to more countermeasures from India.

How India sees China will determine the former's attitude over economic cooperation with the latter. China's well-made goods with competitive prices are quite attractive to Indian consumers. Chinese investment helps create more employment opportunities in India and promote the development of India's industrialization. Thanks to its advantages in infrastructure sector, China can help India improve its own infrastructure at a lower cost but with high efficiency. Yet if New Delhi sees China as a threat, it will be bound to place restrictions on Beijing's investment and infrastructure construction. In the end, it won't be able to take advantage of all the opportunities provided by China.

Turning its back against China, India will have to maintain a large army and purchase expensive and advanced weapons instead of cutting military spending in order to invest limited resources in economic development as China did in the early stages of its reform and opening-up.

Paradoxically, New Delhi has been seeking Beijing's support for its goal to assume permanent membership of the UN Security Council, and is requesting China's help in a number of other major issues, such as its bid to join the NSG, and in anti-terrorism. It is hard to imagine that China will back a country, which considers it as an enemy, to become a permanent member of the UN Security Council.

Some Chinese scholars suggested after the Doklam incident a need for strategic assessments of India and Beijing-New Delhi relations too, in order to adjust China's policy toward India. Some believe China should support Indian separatist forces as tit for tat against India's support toward Tibet independence forces. Some also say that if ties between Beijing and New Delhi

become hostile, investments by Chinese enterprises and participation in Indian infrastructure construction should be restricted. Yet more people believe that China should turn the crisis into an opportunity, enhance bilateral strategic communication, rational analysis and assessment.

It is hoped that India can make a comprehensive review of China-India relations, draw a professional, rational and responsible conclusion, properly guide its media and the public's attitude toward China, as well as reduce misleading reports from unqualified media news outlets and experts, so as to promote a correct understanding of Beijing and provide an authoritative reference for the Indian government.

The author is a senior fellow at the Charhar Institute and director of China West Normal University's Center for Indian Studies.

Trilateral alliance threatens peninsula security

By Zhao Minghao October.12,2017 Source: Global Times



The US' alliance with Japan and South Korea has strengthened amid rising tensions on the Korean Peninsula. Some American strategists even suggest that Washington allow Seoul and Tokyo to develop nuclear weapons, triggering concern among Chinese and Russian analysts.

In the last few months, North Korea has conducted several ballistic missile tests and one nuclear test. Whether Washington will provide security guarantee to its allies has become a key concern in Seoul and Tokyo. In contrast to previous administrations, US President Donald Trump has adopted a transactional approach when it comes to dealing with alliance relations. Trump argues that the US has invested too much in safeguarding its allies' security, criticizing South Korea and Japan for a huge surplus in trade with the US. Recently, Trump also called for a withdrawal from its free-trade agreement with South Korea.

Since July, Trump, President of South Korea Moon Jae-in and Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe have sought stronger communication with each other in the hope of coordinating their stance toward Pyongyang. In late September, as Trump and Moon consulted on the sidelines of

the UN General Assembly, both sides have agreed to take a tougher approach. Moon and Abe also met during the third Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok, Russia.

The coordination between Washington, Seoul and Tokyo has gone to a deeper level in terms of military cooperation. They have conducted joint military drills with strategic bombers and nuclear submarines. The Terminal High Altitude Area Defense missile defense system has been deployed on South Korean soil. South Korea even proposed the purchase of billions of dollars' worth of US military equipment and asked the US to deploy tactical nuclear weapons. Japan suggested installing the land-based Aegis anti-missile system. South Korea and Japan also announced an extension of their General Security of Military Information Agreement for one year.

The strengthening of the alliance between the US, South Korea and Japan has profound domestic political reasons. Trump hopes a strong leadership image will ease domestic pressure. Moon, who used to favor dialogue with North Korea to alleviate tensions, now has to tighten his alliance with the US to calm hardliners and the military. The goal of Abe's administration is to make full use of the North Korean nuclear crisis to amend its constitution and upgrade Japan's armaments.

The stronger alliance will have a profound influence on Northeast Asian regional security. The idea of reintroducing tactical nuclear weapons is obviously dangerous and counterproductive. The US Navy's long-range nuclear strike capability is enough to deter and destroy North Korea. Allowing the US Forces stationed in South Korea to regain tactical nuclear weapons sends a signal that the US will wage war against North Korea. Besides the potential overreaction from North Korea, it will spark anti-nuclear sentiments among people in South Korea and Japan, and provoke strategic suspicions from China and Russia.

The Trump administration's control of South Korea and Japan is also at risk. The US so far has sent mixed signals when it comes to its North Korea policy due to disagreement within the Trump administration. But the military is becoming more influential. Preparations for a military strike against North Korea are being stepped up, including plans by Admiral Harry Harris, chief of the US Pacific Command.

US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson advocates engaging with North Korea but has not received much support from Trump. Someone in the White House has to have a clear line of thought about dealing with North Korea and adhering to it. Otherwise Trump, who tends to make random decisions, might be influenced by his military commanders and launch a rushed, impulsive attack on North Korea. Once the war starts, Seoul and Tokyo will face a retaliatory attack that could cost hundreds of thousands of lives.

Although Beijing insists on denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, a strengthened US-South Korea-Japan trilateral alliance nearby is not what China would like to see. China has shouldered enormous pressure the last few months by strictly implementing UN Security Council sanctions. A few days ago, China's Ministry of Commerce issued a notice banning exports of condensate and liquefied natural gas to North Korea and a complete ban on textile imports from North Korea. Oil price in Pyongyang has started to rise and further economic hardship is expected.

As China has always said, sanctions are not the aim and military strikes are not the solution. However, as the US, South Korea and Japan strengthen their alliance, the possibility of a direct military confrontation is increasing on the Korean Peninsula. When you hold a hammer in your hand, every problem looks like a nail. The international community must not only firmly stop North Korea from developing nuclear weapons, but also prevent the military hawks taking dangerous risks.

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