

EDITORIAL

Dear readers,

We are delighted to present you the 24th volume of the annual journal International Studies, published by Institute of International Studies, Mongolian Academy of Sciences. Our Editorial Office has received total of 10 articles from researchers and scholars around the world in 2023. Based on the result of three step assessment: editorial primary assessment, independent experts review and decision of editorial board meeting, 6 articles have been selected to be published on this issue. On behalf of the Editorial Board, I would like to express our appreciation for the experts who devoted their valuable time writing a review to improve the quality of the materials published in the journal.

First article in this volume is “*Driving Factors and Feasibility Analysis: China–Mongolia Collaboration on Climate Change under the Belt and Road Initiative Framework*”, by Professor. Dr. Pin Zuo, Shanghai University, Professor. Dr. Zolboo Dashnyam, director of Institute of International Studies, Mongolian Academy of Sciences, and Professor. Dr. Ping Jiang, Fudan University. Their article focusing on the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) offers great opportunities for China and Mongolia to collaborate on tackling climate change. Also, this study discusses the evolution of legislation in China and Mongolia in the context of dealing with climate change and then explores the factors that influence

China–Mongolia collaboration on climate change mitigation from the perspectives of climate environmental governance and energy development at the domestic level. Also, this article identifies geopolitical relations, the energy supply, technology and investment, and the demand for a transition to sustainable development as the main driving forces for China and Mongolia to collaborate on climate change mitigation under the BRI.

Next, an article entitled “*The Role of Transport and Logistics Components of Mongolia in the Development of Euro-Asian Economic Cooperation*”, by Professor Sc.D Davaasuren Avirmed, Head of the Department of Regional and Multilateral Cooperation Studies, Institute of International Studies, Mongolian Academy of Sciences, and Doctoral student Tonglaga Huang discusses the implementation of Mongolia's “New Recovery Policy”, evaluates the current status of cargo and passenger transport, analyzes the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on these sectors, and identifies issues within the transport and logistics industry. This research discussed on proposing actual solutions to the problems mentioned in this study and to augment transit traffic passing through Mongolia; and the establishment of an autonomous government body, crucial for creating the central economic corridor connecting China, Mongolia, and Russia.

“Development Status of Digital Economy in Northeast Asian Countries and China’s Opportunities”, by, Song Linlin, Associate Researcher at Institute of Northeast Asian Studies, Heilongjiang Provincial Academy of Social Sciences of the China, details the current development status of digital economy in various countries in Northeast Asia, analyzes the challenges faced by countries in the region in developing cross-border digital economic and trade cooperation from three aspects: political mutual trust, digital divide, and network security. It further proposes to build a cross-border digital service trade platform in Northeast Asia, establish a China North Russia Far East digital free trade zone, so as to promote the deepening of cooperation and common development in digital trade within the region.

Interview and survey data included in the article *“The Belt and Road Initiatives & Mongolia: Expert Survey Results”*, by Khatanbold Oidov, Leading Academic Researcher (Ph.D), and Head of the Department of Political Sciences and Legal Studies, Institute of Philosophy, Mongolian Academy of Sciences focused on the Mongolia's development, characteristics, participation in the Belt and Road Initiative launched by the People's Republic of China, its benefits, its impact on the present state of Mongolia's society and the obstacles it faces.

Doctoral Student Battsetseg Ochirkhuyag at Department of International Relations, Renmin University of Beijing published her article *“Is Mongolia's 'Third Neighbor Policy' Truly Effective?”*. This article explains about similarities and differences in the implementation of the Third Neighbor Policy by other countries, Mongolia should continue to pursue this approach in the future to enhance its strategic autonomy. The Third Neighbor Policy holds promising future opportunities for Mongolia to expand cooperation in various sectors, particularly in terms of economic cooperation.

Meng Gencang who is a PhD at School of Ethnology and Sociology of the Inner Mongolia University examines the China’s Mongolia Research Centers and other related research institutions and analyze the Chinese scholarship on Mongolia and its development trend with his recent article *“The Chinese Scholarship on Mongolia and Its Development Trend”*. The Chinese scholarship on Mongolia has strong Chinese characteristics that mainly focus on the political, economic, and diplomatic fields from the Chinese perspective.

From this year, the articles will be published on the online journal as well, after they are received and selected. This will give researchers an opportunity to make their articles accessible to the public in a short period of time.

Your Sincerely,
D.Zolboo
Editor-in-Chief