

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

We are pleased to welcome the new issue of the Mongolian Journal of International Affairs which is the only journal in Mongolia certified internationally covering on international relations, foreign policy and area studies since 1994. Although we faced many challenges due to the global pandemic in 2021, according to the 2021 statistics, our journal reported more than 60,000 accesses, which is a significant number for us.

The year 2021 was a year full of many important events not only for Mongolia's foreign relations but also for our magazine. On behalf of the members of the Editorial Board, I would like to congratulate Dr. Ts.Batbayar, the first Editor-in-Chief and a member of the Editorial Board on becoming a full member of the Mongolian Academy of Sciences. In 2021, our editorial board received a total of 15 articles from different countries, and this issue includes 8 research papers and 1 article that meet the requirements by the independent experts for the journal.

In 2021, we celebrated anniversaries of important events which were relevant to Mongolia's foreign affairs. In this sense, the current issue of the journal includes 3 sets of research papers and articles.

The first set of articles is about how the People's Republic of Mongolia

became a full-fledged member of the United Nations 60 years ago. The readers of our journal can look at this historical event through "Mongolia's Diplomatic Efforts to Join the United Nations and the Changes in the Position of the Great Powers on Mongolia", Academician Ts. Batbayar's "Journey" to Join the United Nations in 1946-1961: "Cold War" Factors and Ideological Conflicts of the Great Powers".

In his article, Dr. D.Ulambayar examines Mongolia's 15 years of diplomatic efforts to join the United Nations, the main factors that influenced it, and the changing policies and positions of the Soviet Union, the Kuomintang of China, the United States, and other great powers. Through his article, Academician Ts. Batbayar looks at challenges the country faced such as Mongolia's contribution to the war against Japanese militarism; the question of the involvement of Ulaanbaatar to the Korean war in 1950-1953; the arguments between Moscow and Washington concerning etc..

Moreover, the year 2021 marked 100th anniversary of concluding the very first agreement between Mongolia and former Soviet Union. In celebrating the anniversary, a number of bilateral academic conferences were organized between Mongolia and Russia. As for the Institute of International Studies of Mongolia, we published "Chronology of Mongolian-Russian relations (1911-

1921)", and organized an academic conference entitled "Russian Studies in Mongolia" followed by the publication of presentations discussed during the conference. We hope that our readers find interesting insights from the "New Architecture of Pacific Asia in the 21st Century: Opportunities and Challenges for Mongolia and Pacific Russia" by Dr. Viktor L. Larin, "On Some Developmental Trends for The Russian-Mongolian Relationships" by Academician Naumkin Vitaly Vyacheslavovich and "The Past and Present State of the Saint Petersburg School of Classic Mongolology" by Dr. Irina Fedorovna Popova.

We are also pleased to offer research papers on challenges in Mongolia's regional cooperation. This set of research papers includes "Mineral Resources of Mongolia as a Driving Force of the Country" by Dr. A.Davaasuren and "One Belt One Union": Cooperation of Russia and China, and Mongolia's Foreign Policy" by Doctorate D.Munkhjargal.

"Third Neighbor Policy Concept in Mongolia's Geopolitics" by Dr. S.Bayasgalan and an article by Doctorate D.Ariunaa explain why "Third Neighbor" Policy is vitally important for Mongolia. In her article entitled "Financial Integration in the Context of the European Union", Doctorate D.Ariunaa examined the benefits and risks of financial integration in the context of the European Union, which has facilitated global financial integration immensely by creating common currency among European Monetary Union countries and harmonizing regulations across the region in her article

From next year, we are planning to introduce our online platform with online first in the Journal receiving DOI numbers which would allow them to become fully citeable within a short time. We hope that our journal will be an attractive place to publish breakthrough results.

*Your Sincerely,
D.Zolboo
Editor-in-Chief*