Abstracts

Diversity and Commonality of the Paths to Modernization between Chinese and African Practice

Zhang Chun & Wang Hailu

Abstract：Based on the overall success of Western modernization，the existing theories tend to highlight the single and linear model of modernization，belie the diversity and even conceal the commonality behind the paths to modernization. The existence of competitive theories and practices，coupled with the success of Chinese path to modernization，not only highlight the diversity of paths to modernization，but also demonstrate the three common elements of such diversity，namely，development consensus building，development momentum cultivating，and development resilience strengthening. The success of Chinese path to modernization attributes to the fact that the Communist Party of China（CPC）has played a leading role in building national development consensus，fostering development momentum through endogenous development，resource allocation optimization，and reform and opening up driven by development－first approach，and improving development resilience through economic diversification，gradual reform，and risk early warning and crisis management. With experience in the integration of traditional consensus governance and modern democratic governance，and practices on balancing development，security and governance nexus，and capacity building of early warning and risk management，African countries have gain momentum on path to modernization. Despite significant differences in national conditions，the experience exchange on modernization between China and Africa，focusing on development consensus，development momentum and development resilience，can effectively break the myth of "modernization = Westernization" and contribute to developing countries' efforts of pursuing modernization independently.

Key words：Chinese path to modernization；Africa；development consensus；development momentum；development resilience

State – Building，Political Culture，and Political Crisis：A Three – Dimensional Consideration of Political Modernization in Middle East Countries

Han Zhibin & Ma Yunfei

Abstract：The modernization of the Middle East countries has unique characteristics in the process of world modernization. From the three dimensions of state – building，political culture，and political crisis，we can explore the historical context，cultural mechanisms，and challenges of the political modernization of Middle Eastern countries. After going through the preliminary preparations，logical starting points and development dilemmas of state – building，the Middle Eastern countries began the process of initiating，evolving and exploring the political modernization. In this process，the traditional political culture with Islamic political culture，strongman political culture，and tribalism political culture as the main contents has always been the vane of influencing the political modernization of Middle Eastern countries，while the modern political culture with Arab nationalism，Arab socialism，and Islam centrism as the main contents reflects the "barometer" of the quality and level of the political modernization of Middle Eastern countries. The political modernization of Middle Eastern countries faces six crises and challenges，including national identity，political integration，policy implementation，popular participation，political distribution，and political legitimacy. Therefore，only by breaking out of the "stereotypes" of the Western political model and basing themselves on their own national conditions and public opinion will the Middle Eastern countries explore unique path of political modernization and development.

Key words：political modernization；Middle East；state – building；political culture；political crisis

Great Power Politics and the Tragedy of the Palestinian Issue in the 20th Century

Liu Zhongmin

Abstract：In the 20th Century，great power politics has had a serious negative impact on the formation and development of the Palestinian issue. During World War I，competition for the Middle East and the contradictory arrangement directly led to the Palestinian problem；British failed commission rule in Palestine after World War I，the United States and the Soviet Union agreed on an unreasonable separation of

Palestine and Israel because of their respective strategic considerations. After World War Ⅱ, these have led to the lengthening of the Arab – Israeli conflict and the suspension of the Palestinian issue. In the 1950s and 60s, struggle for supremacy in the Middle East became the core of the US – Soviet Middle East policy, and the Palestinian issue was seriously ignored. In the 1970s, the importance of the issue in U. S. – Soviet Middle East policy was risen, however, Palestinian national rights and their nation – founding rights have not been taken seriously. In the 1980s, the United States proposed a Middle East peace plan, while the Soviet Union supported the Arab "rejection front", which led to further fragmentation of the Arab world and complicating the Palestinian issue. Tracing back to the history, it can be found that the great power politics has had a serious impact on the continuation, complication and marginalization of the Palestinian issue. First, Western colonialism, imperialism and manipulation by the United States and the Soviet Union are the root causes of the Palestinian issue. Second, during the Cold War, the United States and the Soviet Union denied the Palestinian national rights and opposed the nation – founding of the Palestine. Third, the favoritism of the United States towards Israel, and the division of the Arab world made by the United States and the Soviet Union are the important reasons for the power imbalance in the Arab – Israeli conflict and the continuous weakening and differentiation of the Arab states, which have had a serious negative impact on the Palestinian issue. In short, the tragedy of the Palestinian issue was essentially the product of colonialism, imperialism and hegemonism which carried out the great power politics and competed for hegemony in the Middle East. The fundamental reason was that the great powers created and manipulated the Palestinian issue from their own interests, thus making the Palestinian issue a protracted problem of the century.

Key words：great power politics；Palestine；Israel；Palestinian – Israeli conflict；international system

Development and Challenges of Artificial Intelligence in the Middle East
She Gangzheng & Fang Yuxin

Abstract：In the backdrop of digital advancement around the globe, the burgeoning technology of artificial intelligence （AI） is emerging as a potent catalyst for reshaping societal, economic, and political landscapes, garnering increasing

attention from various actors in the Middle East. Grounded in imperatives of development， security， and strategic hedging， the Middle Eastern countries have devised AI development strategies tailored to their unique national contexts. They have undertaken proactive measures such as establishing dedicated administrative bodies， crafting legal and regulatory frameworks conducive to AI advancement， robustly investing in research and development（R&D）and talent cultivation， and actively engaging in international and regional collaborations for AI governance， yielding promising initial outcomes. While presently the Middle East harbors immense potential for AI development， it confronts a host of indigenous challenges， including the potential entrenchment and stagnation of vulnerable socio－economic groups， disruptions to the labor market， and the exacerbation of extremist ideological proliferation， which pose social risks and unconventional security threats. Moreover， the security implications of militarized AI development and deployment in the region warrant serious consideration as well. From a broader perspective of "Global South"， the Middle East both stands as a trailblazer in AI development practices and faces developmental obstacles shared with other developing countries. By navigating the terrain of AI optimization within their local contexts， Middle Eastern nations could offer invaluable insights and lessons to other countries in the "Global South" embarking on their AI journeys.

Key words：artificial intelligence；"Global South"；Middle Eastern countries； digital age；scientific and technological advancement；governance of state

The Role and Function of Military Drones Export in Türkiye's Enterprising Diplomacy

Li Jie & Ji Baobing

Abstract：After the Arab Spring， Türkiye's enterprising orientation in diplomacy has become increasingly apparent. In this context， Türkiye intends to use military drones export as a diplomatic tool to serve its enterprising foreign policy. With the growing demand for military drones in the international market， Türkiye has been able to use military drones export to strengthen military and political relations， exchange needed interests， indirectly intervene in regional conflicts， and improve bilateral relations， which has consolidated the domestic foundation of Türkiye's foreign policy internally， shaped a favorable geopolitical pattern externally， and

expanded Türkiye's political influence, achieving certain results overall. However, military drones are essentially military weapons. Türkiye expands its influence by means of foreign arms sales, which has obvious limitations, mainly reflected in the following aspects: military drones export highlights the inherent contradictions of Türkiye's diplomatic concept and weakens its effect of humanitarian narrative; military drones export has incurred counterattacks from Türkiye's geopolitical rivals and increased its regional competitive pressure; military drones export has intensified the proliferation of drones around the world and damaged the "responsible" international image that Türkiye is trying to establish.

Key words: Turkish diplomacy; drones export; "Enterprising and Humanitarian Foreign Policy"; geopolitics

Iran – Israel Cyberspace Conflict: Evolution, Motivations and Impacts
Chen Yao

Abstract: Since the Stuxnet cyberattack in 2010, conflicts between Iran and Israel in cyberspace have been growingly aggravated and turned white – hot, emerging as a new form of their strategic confrontation. Iran and Israel started a competition on cyber defensive and offensive capabilities, and their increasing cyberattacks on each other caused physical damage. As cyberspace is an offensive – dominant arena, Iran and Israel can fulfill their goals of strategic confrontation in the real world through cyber means. Cyber conflict is unlikely to trigger a large – scale military retaliation and lacks international supervision, thus helping to limit their conflict intensity. Though both sides have partially achieved their strategic goals in cyberspace, the intensified cyber conflicts boosted the escalation of their strategic confrontation, and further deepened the security dilemma and antagonism between them. In the process of conflicts, Iran and Israel have promoted the military informatization level, strengthened cyber security cooperation with great powers outside the region, and constructed cyber offensive and defensive systems inside the region, which increased their capabilities and means that can be used in the confrontation. It is worth noting that the trend of "hybrid warfare" combining cyberspace conflicts with the actual military confrontation between Iran and Israel is becoming more and more obvious.

Key words: cyberspace conflict; Iran; Israel; national security; "hybrid warfare"

Exploring Digital Divide Governance in Digital Transformation of Basic Education in Israel

Jiao Huining

Abstract：Israel has become an economic powerhouse in the Middle East，with one of the keys being the implementation of a strategy to rejuvenate the nation through science and education，where basic education is seen as the cornerstone of this strategy. The aim of basic education in Israel is to cultivate well－rounded，excellent talents to boost national economic and social development. Entering the 21st century，while vigorously popularizing the internet，Israel has focused on promoting the digitization of basic education and has built a comprehensive national digital learning platform to empower education through digitization. However，the digital process of basic education is influenced by national education policies，family income，social culture，and parental inter－generational transmission，and the digital divide among teachers，students，and parents is becoming increasingly prominent. To bridge the digital divide，the Israeli government has taken multiple measures to promote the balanced development of basic education，such as adopting a policy orientation of high－quality balance，increasing investment to narrow the gap between groups，and guiding the improvement of teacher quality with concepts. Although there are still some limitations in the digital transformation development of basic education in Israel at present in general，its pioneering digital development strategy and effective governance of the digital divide contribute to enhancing the connotation and quality of basic education，and also have certain implications for developing countries.

Key words：digital education；Israel；basic education；digital divide；digital literacy

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