

## Abstracts

### **The Resilience and Sustainable Development of China – Arab Cooperation under Geopolitical Crises**

*Fu Xiaoqiang, Zhou Lie, Han Zhibin & Hou Yuxiang*

**Abstract:** The US – Israel War on Iran has accelerated the evolution of the once – in – a – century major changes, and its impact on the global geostrategic landscape is gradually becoming apparent. The Middle East has once again become the epicenter of the global hot war, and the prolonged conflict has impacted global energy and maritime trade security. Signs of the hollowing out and decline of American hegemony are emerging, and policies are less rational and more unstable. The global security crisis is worsening, affecting regional development and cooperation among countries. Against the backdrop of intense geopolitical turmoil, China and Arab countries are moving towards each other on the path of national rejuvenation and modernization. Based on deep historical ties, similar cultural values, shared development vision and fruitful cooperation, the two sides are joining hands to embark on a new journey of common modernization. The exchange of civilizations between China and Arab countries follows the principle of theoretical self – awareness of “engagement for mutual understanding, not for confrontation”, which is reflected in political mutual trust, economic trade, ideological concepts, people – to – people exchanges and other aspects, providing important inspiration for global civilizational dialogue. In recent years, due to factors such as the rising strategic autonomy demands of Arab countries, the increasing demand for modernization transformation, and the rise of the Global South to enhance the sense of common identity between China and Arab countries, Arab countries’ attention to China – Arab cooperation has continued to rise, and positive interpretation of China – Arab cooperation have dominated. Arab countries fully affirm China’s achievements in modernization, widely recognize the practical cooperation mechanism between China and Arab countries, positively evaluate China’s role in the Global South, and look forward to sharing the governance experience behind China’s modernization. In the future, China – Arab cooperation should focus on strengthening the cognitive foundation of China – Arab cooperation, precisely matching the expectations of Arab countries for cooperation with China, enhancing the demonstration effect of

China – Arab cooperation, and providing a more convincing China – Arab model for the Global South countries to work together to advance modernization.

**Key words:** China – Arab cooperation; geopolitics; Global South; modernization path; civilizational exchange

### **The New Development and Security Implications of the Militarization of Artificial Intelligence in Africa**

*Zhang Mengying*

**Abstract:** The explosive growth of artificial intelligence (AI) worldwide is increasingly reflected in the defense and security sectors. The militarization of AI in Africa is accelerating its implementation and expanding its applications. African regional organizations are actively formulating structured policies to guide regional militarization of AI development and using AI technology to empower regional collective security mechanisms and form a comprehensive security strategy, making significant contributions to the implementation and responsible application of the militarization of AI technologies in African countries. Under the influence of techno – nationalism, African countries represented by Egypt, Kenya, and South Africa are stepping up the formulation of relevant strategic plans and normative standards for the militarization of AI, establishing the militarization of AI research institutes, promoting military applications and indigenous research and development. The militarization of AI for African security is a coin with two sides. On the one hand, AI enhances the efficiency of reconnaissance and intelligence analysis, and also helps reduce soldier casualties and assist in controlling organized crime, etc.; on the other hand, The militarization of AI is exacerbating security vulnerabilities and humanitarian crises in Africa, threatening the continent's military technological sovereignty and self – defense capabilities. This may trigger an arms race, intensify international geopolitical tensions and pose risks to regional security stability. The militarization of AI represents both a crucial endeavor for Africa to counter Western technological hegemony and its dependency on foreign technologies, a critical variable in reshaping the continent's security landscape and influencing regional stability, and a strategic pathway towards forging an independent development model alongside African military modernization.

**Key words:** African security; militarization of artificial intelligence; techno – nationalism; independent development model; African military modernization

## **Building Sovereign AI: The UAE's Strategic Transformation and Practical Exploration**

*Liu Xinlu & Shi Ming*

**Abstract:** The global landscape of AI governance is undergoing a paradigmatic shift, and its structural reconfiguration is driven not only by technological iteration but also by great – power strategic competition and the rising agency of the Global South. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is pursuing a strategic leap from a hydrocarbon – dependent economy toward a digital power centered on algorithmic sovereignty. Through a model of leveraged state capital and the systematic integration of global innovation resources, the UAE has advanced a digital mercantilist strategy built on control over data and autonomy in foundational models. In the context of intensifying Sino – US technological rivalry, it has also adopted a multi – vector balancing strategy. These initiatives have positioned the UAE as an important node in global networks of technological power, reshaped the strategic choices of middle powers in an era of techno – nationalism, and contributed to a more polycentric and networked order of AI governance. The main challenge is whether the UAE can address structural contradictions embedded in its development model, manage geopolitical pressures, and sustain a balance between efficiency and inclusion, and between openness and autonomy.

**Key words:** sovereign AI; UAE; digital mercantilism; technological geopolitics; algorithmic sovereignty; Global South

## **The Development Trend and Limitation of Türkiye's Techno – nationalism from the Perspective of Strategic Autonomy**

*Du Donghui*

**Abstract:** In the context of intensifying global technological competition, techno – nationalism has once again garnered scholarly attention. As a middle power, Türkiye has achieved tangible progress in recent years in defense – related technologies, making its techno – nationalist approach a representative case from the Global South. Türkiye's techno – nationalism constitutes a national strategy and ideology centered on achieving “strategic autonomy,” encompassing both defensive autonomy at the systemic level and assertive autonomy at the regional level. Its underlying logic lies in the mutual reinforcement between technological prowess and nationalist discourse, characterized by state leadership, defense – sector primacy, and latecomer catch – up strategies. Driven by objectives such as escaping strategic dependence,

forging a “New Türkiye” identity, and securing industrial self – reliance, Türkiye has developed distinctive policy tools: the pragmatic cultivation of asymmetric advantages, geopolitical hedging to broaden access to technology, and identity – based mobilization to penetrate targeted markets. While this approach has significantly enhanced Türkiye’s military and diplomatic leverage, it faces persistent challenges, including fiscal and economic strains, limited autonomy in core technologies, and excessive geopolitical burdens.

**Key words:** techno – nationalism; Türkiye; strategic autonomy; techno – politics

### **Technology for Development: Saudi Arabia’s Developmental Techno – nationalism**

*Liu Chen & Sun Fengxuan*

**Abstract:** This article proposes the concept of “developmental techno – nationalism”, which seeks to transform technological progress into a source of modernization discourse and political legitimacy, thereby promoting economic upgrading and the reconstruction of national identity. It is characterized by a strong developmental orientation, a state – building function, and strategic flexibility. Since its founding, technology has been a key thread in the evolution of Saudi nationalism. After experiencing stages of resource – based nationalism and resource – driven techno – nationalism, Saudi Arabia formally entered the phase of developmental techno – nationalism with the launch of “Vision 2030” in 2016. At the level of technological power, Saudi Arabia has expanded into emerging sectors—including artificial intelligence (AI), the digital economy, and green energy—through institutional development, standard – setting, and capital investment. At the level of techno – security discourse, it combines “autonomy and control” with “civilizational identity”, reducing external dependence through diversified cooperation and domestic research and development, while embedding technological development within Islamic ethical, cultural, and governance frameworks. The Saudi case demonstrates that techno – nationalism in late – developing states is not merely a defensive response to external pressure, but an active mechanism for restructuring power relations and social contracts. While developmental techno – nationalism represents a strategic pathway for such states, it also entails inherent structural risks and may reproduce new forms of technological inequality.

**Key words:** technology politics; Saudi Arabia; developmental techno – nationalism; technological power competition; technological security narrative; state – building

## **The Internal Logic and Practice Approach of UAE's Energy Transition within the Structural Power Framework**

*Liu Zhongmin & Xu Zhangmin*

**Abstract:** From the perspective of structural power theory, the third global energy transformation is a revolution of safety, production, finance and knowledge structure, and the transformation of UAE from a single oil economy to diversified economy is a self-revolution in order to adapt to the structural power change in essence. From the perspective of security structure, the UAE aims to address the vulnerability of the national economy's dependence on oil, deal with various security threats, enhance political legitimacy at home and enforce national competitiveness externally. From the perspective of production structure, the UAE has made its best to readjust to the global innovation in energy production value chains by developing renewable energy capacity, thereby acquiring new forms of green production power while maintaining traditional oil revenues. From the perspective of finance structure, the UAE seeks to establish a global green financial hub and capital nexus, thereby securing influence and agency within the emerging global financial power structure. From the perspective of knowledge structure, the UAE aims to construct a comprehensive energy knowledge system by developing green energy technologies and innovation capabilities, thereby positioning itself to lead in global energy and climate governance. The UAE's energy transition has made significant strides toward achieving the goal of transitioning from a "traditional oil and gas supplier" to a "global clean energy hub", partially realizing its structural power reconstruction at national, regional, and global levels. However, the UAE's energy transition faces many arduous tasks. The success or failure of its energy transition directly impacts not only the UAE but also the broader transformation and development prospects of the Gulf states.

**Key words:** energy transition; the United Arab Emirates; structural power; safety structure; production structure; finance structure; knowledge structure

## **The Paradigm Exploration of "Development-oriented De-securitization" in China's Energy International Cooperation: A Case Study of China-Middle East Energy Cooperation**

*Wu Lei & Zhu Wenqing*

**Abstract:** Global energy cooperation has long been dominated by the Western

“security paradigm”, leading the cooperation into a predicament of “differential order game”. China’s practice of “development – oriented de – securitization” in international energy cooperation breaks through the mindset of “securitization confrontation” within the traditional geopolitical framework and builds a new cooperation model centered on “security – development” dialectical unity. Based on the energy cooperation practices between China and Middle East countries, this article expounds the theoretical connotation of “development – oriented de – securitization” and analyzes how China promotes the paradigm transformation of energy cooperation from security game to development symbiosis through three progressive dimensions: issue transformation, capacity building, rule output and interaction institutionalization. At the level of issue transformation, China has deeply bound the development needs of Middle East countries such as economic diversification and low – carbon transformation with its own energy security demands, thus shifting energy cooperation from security control to security – development synergy. At the capacity building level, through the collaborative empowerment of technology, industry and participation, China helps Middle East countries achieve the leap from energy dependence to technological autonomy. At the level of rule output and interaction institutionalization, China relies on bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation mechanisms to export its energy rules. This paradigm exploration not only eliminates the risks of traditional energy geopolitical confrontation, but also builds a new type of partnership of “security and development symbiosis” through development empowerment, providing a Chinese solution beyond the “security dilemma” for global energy governance and demonstrating the practical value of non – Western theories in resolving the binary paradox of security and development.

**Key words:** Global Governance Initiative; global energy governance; China – Middle East energy cooperation; development – oriented de – securitization; issue transformation; capacity building; rule output; interaction institutionalization

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