

# CURRENT JOURNAL CONTENTS

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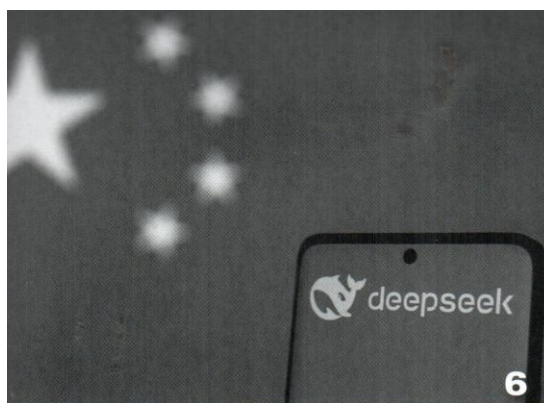
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THE SOURCE ON NONPROLIFERATION AND GLOBAL SECURITY

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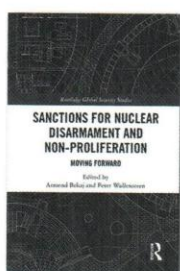
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### 25 Syria Promises to Dismantle Chemical Weapons Program

Syria's interim foreign minister also told the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons that the Assad regime's chemical weapons program was "one of the darkest chapters" in world history.

### 25 North Korea Justifies Nuclear Weapons Expansion

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### 27 TPNW States Confront Escalating Nuclear Dangers

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### 28 Poland, Baltic States to Exit Landmine Ban Treaty

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### 29 OPCW Finds More Chemical Weapons Use in Ukraine

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### 30 Congress Cuts NNSA Nonproliferation Budget

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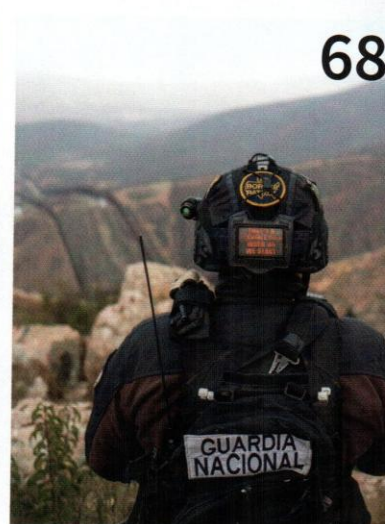
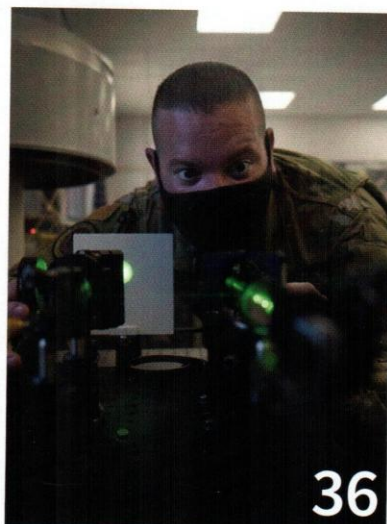
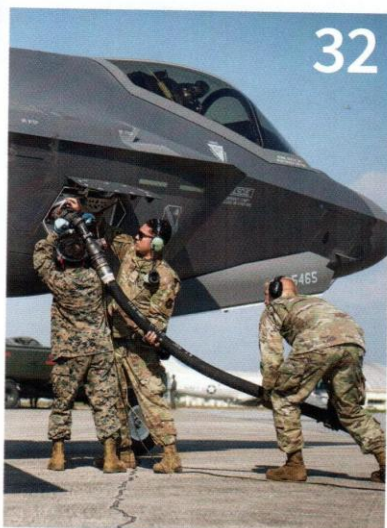
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An MH-60S Sea Hawk, left, and an E-2D Hawkeye approach the flight deck of aircraft carrier USS Gerald R Ford (CVN 78) during carrier qualifications in September 2024. This month *JDIR* examines how the Ford fleet faces system challenges despite CVN 78 undertaking a successful deployment.

US Navy/Mass Communication Specialist  
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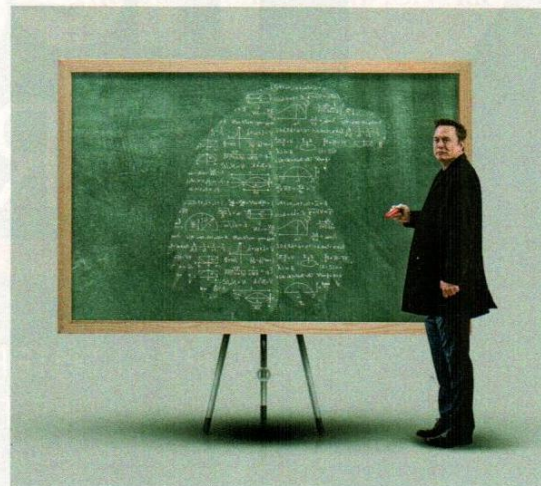
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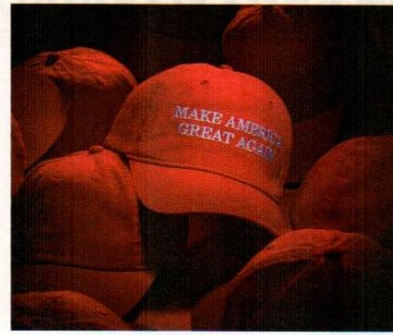
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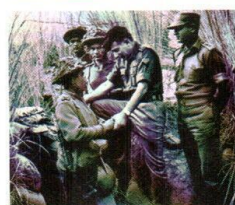
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Vol. 169, No. 7, 2024

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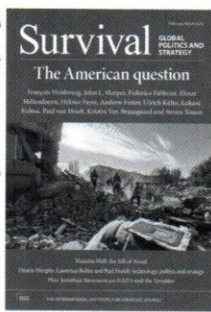
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Rescue workers examine the rubble of a residential building partially destroyed by a Russian aerial bomb in Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine, on 8 November 2024, in an attack that killed ten people.

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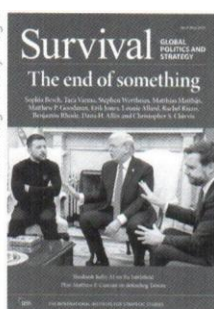
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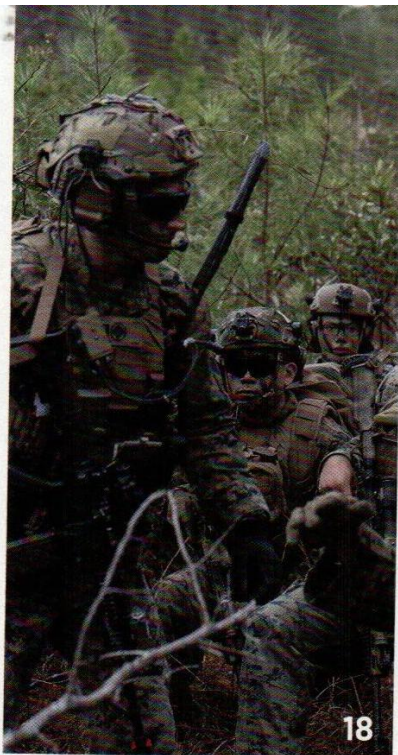
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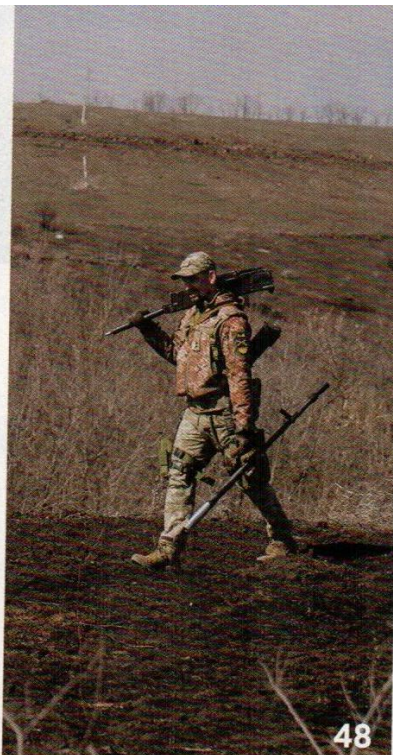
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Mortarmen with 3d Littoral Combat Team, 3d Marine Littoral Regiment, 3d Marine Division, fire an 81mm mortar during a training exercise at Pohakuloa Training Area, Hawaii, on 17 January 2025. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Mallia Sparks)

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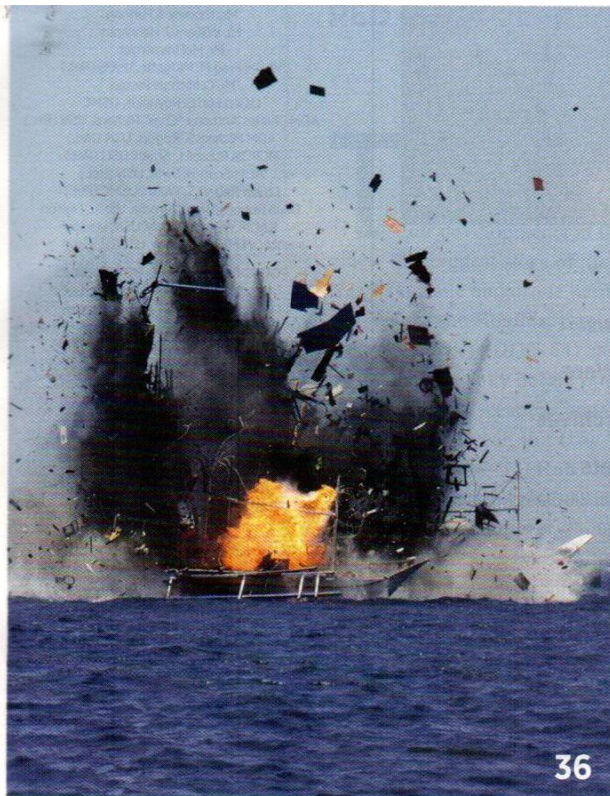
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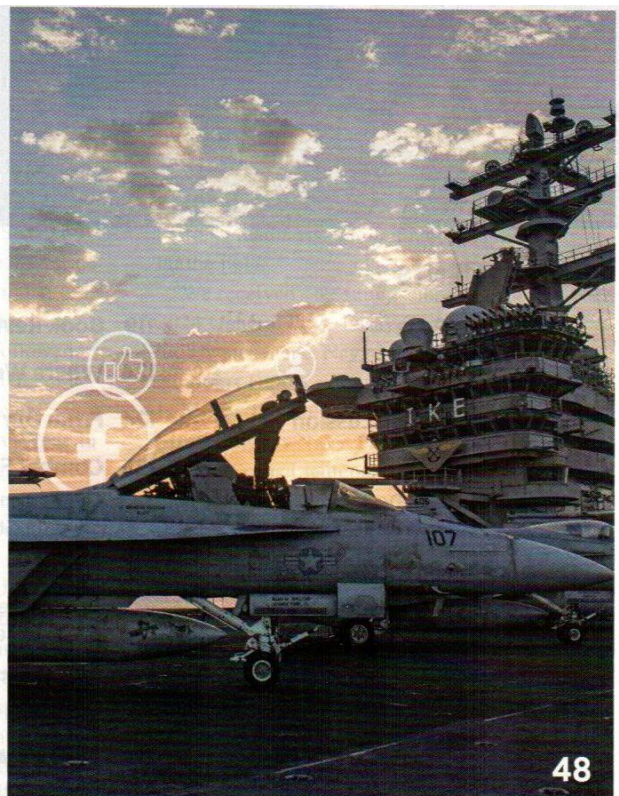
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In April 2024, aviation ordnance men on board the USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN-69) transported ordnance across the flight deck in preparation for air strikes against the Houthis in Yemen, who were attacking merchant shipping in the Red Sea. (U.S. Navy)

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*S Subba Rao* reviews the evolution in the structure and activities of the United Nations, mainly since the end of the Cold War and exposes the organisation's flaws and weaknesses which threaten its survival because of growing irrelevance. However, while emphasising the urgent need for reform, the author shows the obstacles that prevent radical changes.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY AND PEOPLE-CENTRIC ADMINISTRATION A GLOBAL ENDEAVOUR TOWARDS GOOD GOVERNANCE

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#### BLACK SWAN EVENTS IN THE FOREIGN POLICY OF INDIA

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#### DISCORDANT NOTES IN THE KASHMIR ISSUE

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*Sukhwant S Bindra* reviews the convoluted history of the dispute over Kashmir between India and Pakistan since the independence of the two countries in 1947. The author argues that the conflict permanently opposes the two states because it is rooted in their critical but divergent political interests and ideological founding principles and he discusses the various possible formulas for settlement that have been envisioned in the last decades.

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The five Central Asian countries, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, gained independence in the early 1990s, after the fall of the Soviet Union. The region is richly endowed with natural resources like crude oil, natural gas, cotton, gold, copper, aluminium, iron, uranium, hydropower potential, etc. Central Asia is also a growing market with millions of customers. India takes interest in the region; its major concerns include energy, security, trade investment, infrastructure development, and the fight against Islamic fundamentalism. **Saurabh Dalal** shows how Central Asia is a geopolitical chessboard and which powers are playing a major role.

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### A CRITICAL PERSPECTIVE FROM THE GLOBAL SOUTH

Digital colonialism is a looming concern in the compressed world of today, generating a complex array of disjuncture and difference. Globalisation of technology has disproportionately affected the population of least developed countries, including the Black, indigenous and female population. In the wake of the vertical flow of information technologies, technocratic imperialism is waxing in strength. Developing countries like India underscore the fact that the economy of the internet is increasingly dominated by the giant Western corporations, leading to an inequitable sharing of its economic benefits. The communication process should facilitate critical reflection to unveil the distortions. **Akanksha Singh** adopts a mixed method and a qualitative approach, based on a detailed contemporary analysis.

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## ISRAEL AND PALESTINE IN WORLD TRADE ASSESSING THE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES AND OPPORTUNITIES

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The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has not only maintained political tensions, but also had profound economic effects that have affected the development and integration of both entities into the global business environment. Israel and Palestine have strategic geographic locations, skilled labour and innovative industries that could drive economic growth and promote prosperity if effectively utilised. **Gedam Kamalakar** points out projects such as joint industrial zones, cross-border infrastructure development and regional trade agreements have the potential to strengthen economic interdependence, build trust between communities and create an enabling environment for sustainable development. By removing political obstacles, fostering dialogue and supporting inclusive economic development initiatives, stakeholders can unlock the economic potential of Israel and Palestine.

## UNDERRATED POTENTIAL OF SOFT POWER INDIAN SPORTS AND FOOD DIPLOMACY

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Indian sports and cuisine are often considered underrated tools of Indian soft power due to a combination of strategic oversight, cultural fragmentation, and the dominance of other global narratives according to *Kriti*. India's foreign policy has focused on economic growth, military strength, and technological advancements, sidelining the cultural potential of sports and food in shaping perceptions. While cricket is hugely popular in most Commonwealth member countries, especially through the Indian Premier League (IPL), it has not been effectively integrated into India's broader diplomatic strategy. Similarly, Indian cuisine, despite its global appeal, remains regionally fragmented with no unified approach to showcase it internationally.

## THE IMPACT OF BLOCKCHAIN ON CONTRACT LAW SMART CONTRACTS AND LEGAL ENFORCEMENT

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*N Vani Shree* and *Anil S M* explore how smart contracts work, their enforceability in different countries, and the challenges they bring to traditional legal systems. Blockchain technology, with its decentralised and immutable nature, has introduced significant transformations in various sectors, including finance, supply chains, and legal frameworks. The distributed ledger technology (DLT) underlying blockchain offers a secure, transparent, and tamper-resistant method for recording transactions. Smart contracts are self-executing digital agreements that automatically enforce the terms of the contract when predefined conditions are met, removing the need for intermediaries, such as lawyers or banks.



	Name of Journals	Web Address
1	African Security Review	<a href="http://www.tandfonline.com/">http://www.tandfonline.com/</a>
2	AGNI	<a href="http://fsss.in/agni-volume.htm">http://fsss.in/agni-volume.htm</a>
3	Air Power	<a href="http://capsindia.org/APJ">http://capsindia.org/APJ</a>
4	American Political Science Review	<a href="http://journals.cambridge.org/psr">journals.cambridge.org/psr</a>
5	Arms Control Today	<a href="http://www.armscontrol.org">http://www.armscontrol.org</a>
6	Asian Ethnicity	<a href="http://www.informaworld.com">http://www.informaworld.com</a>
7	Asian Survey	<a href="http://as.ucpress.edu/">as.ucpress.edu/</a>
8	Asia-Pacific Review	<a href="http://www.informaworld.com">http://www.informaworld.com</a>
9	China Journal	<a href="http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/toc/tcj/current">www.journals.uchicago.edu/toc/tcj/current</a>
10	China Review	<a href="https://www.chineseupress.com/">https://www.chineseupress.com/</a>
11	Contemporary Security Policy	<a href="http://www.informaworld.com">http://www.informaworld.com</a>
12	Critical Asian Studies	<a href="http://www.informaworld.com">http://www.informaworld.com</a>
13	Current History	<a href="http://www.currenthistory.com/">http://www.currenthistory.com/</a>
14	Defence and Diplomacy	<a href="http://www.capsindia.org">www.capsindia.org</a>
15	Defence and Intelligence Review	<a href="https://shop.janes.com/janes-defence-and-intelligence-review-654-ma-shop2025b">https://shop.janes.com/janes-defence-and-intelligence-review-654-ma-shop2025b</a>
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17	Defence Studies	<a href="http://www.informaworld.com">http://www.informaworld.com</a>
18	Defence and Security Analysis	<a href="http://www.informaworld.com">http://www.informaworld.com</a>
19	Foreign Policy	<a href="http://www.foreignpolicy.com">http://www.foreignpolicy.com</a>
20	Himalayan and Central Asian Studies	<a href="http://searchworksstanford.edu/view/9857190">http://searchworksstanford.edu/view/9857190</a>
21	Indian Defence Review	<a href="https://indiandefencereview.com/">https://indiandefencereview.com/</a>
22	International Journal of Intelligence and Counterintelligence	<a href="http://www.tandfonline.com">www.tandfonline.com</a>
23	International Security	<a href="http://mitpress.mit.edu">http://mitpress.mit.edu</a>
24	Israel Affairs	<a href="http://www.informaworld.com">http://www.informaworld.com</a>
25	Issues and Studies	<a href="http://issues.nccu.edu.tw/">issues.nccu.edu.tw/</a>
26	Journal of Conflict Resolution	<a href="http://jcr.sagepub.com/">http://jcr.sagepub.com/</a>
27	Journal of Palestine Studies	<a href="http://www.ucpress.edu/journal/jps">http://www.ucpress.edu/journal/jps</a>
28	Korean Journal of Defence Analysis	<a href="http://www.tandfonline.com/">http://www.tandfonline.com/</a>
29	Perspectives on Politics	<a href="http://journals.cambridge.org">http://journals.cambridge.org</a>
30	RUSI Journal	<a href="http://www.rusi.org/publications/journal">http://www.rusi.org/publications/journal</a>

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