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Editor's Comments

Dear *JTMS* Readers,

We are pleased to present this issue of *JTMS* with a number of interesting and fresh offerings to start 2020 off on the right foot. This past year has seen a number of hot spots flare up such as the tensions between Pakistan and India over Kashmir and the usual South China Sea tensions. In this issue, we bring readers articles dealing with Indian territorial claims, Vietnam's South China Sea claims, a historical case of the DPRK fiercely defending its maritime sovereignty and more. The details of this issue are as follows.

First, Sarah Fisher and Florian Justwan examine the foreign policy views of Indians regarding Arunachal Pradesh. Using the results of an original face-to-face survey of Indian respondents, they test whether two foreign policy orientations, militant internationalism and cooperative internationalism, influence public opinion toward the Sino-Indian dispute over Arunachal Pradesh. They find that foreign policy orientations are somewhat generalizable to an Indian context and that these orientations impact individuals' support for compromise in border disputes, a critical issue since uncompromising individuals have the potential to motivate governments to pursue hardline policies

Then, Chunjuan Nancy Wei and Mai Frndjibachian investigate four interrelated but poorly understood questions: (1) How many features does Vietnam physically occupy in the Spratly Islands? (2) How does Vietnam administer these features? (3) What are Vietnam's historical, and geopolitical motivations in further reclaiming Spratly's Islands? (4) What are the challenges Vietnam faces in reclaiming said islands? They find that Vietnam is a crucial player in the South China Sea, and its activities influence other players' actions. This paper offers clarification of Vietnam's holdings in the contested water as well as its strategic stance.

Next, Edgardo Sobenes Obregon reviews the existence of an inherent jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice to settle disputes arising from the non-compliance of its judgments, which emanates from its identity as a judicial organ and the necessity to ensure the fulfillment of its judicial function. He also reflects on the inherent jurisdiction of the Court in regard to non-compliance with provisional measures and its similarities to non-compliance with judgments on the merits of a case; as well as the difference between the power conferred to the Security Council in regard to the enforceability of the judgments from the Court and those of the Court from its inherent jurisdiction in matters concerning to non-compliance of its

own judgments. He then concludes by inviting the reader to revive and to engage in further discussion on this issue.

Benjamin R. Young uses former Eastern bloc archival documents and North Korean periodicals in conjunction with a multi-causal theoretical framework from an ancient Greek historian, Thucydides, in order to analyze the importance of fear, honor, and interest within North Korea's regime and society. He argues the North Korean regime's fear of South Korea's imminent economic supremacy and rising Japanese militarism along with defending the honor of Kim Il Sung and the DPRK's territorial boundaries and advancing the interests of the global revolutionary movement factored greatly into Pyongyang's decision-making process in 1968 when the *Pueblo* Crisis unfolded. Young argues, that in this context, the DPRK took a number of concerns into account and acted rationally in their capture of the *Pueblo*.

Finally, Vincent P. Cogliati-Bantz attempts to assess proposals to "freeze" the maritime entitlement of coastal States in the face of sea-level rise by placing it in the context of climate change in the Anthropocene and briefly looking at the international community's responses, identifying the particular concerns of small island developing States. He then examines the current law of the sea on baselines and maritime zones, and responses within the law to mitigate the impact of sea-level rise. He proceeds to examine some solutions recommended in academic circles, as well as official calls within international bodies, to fix the outer limits of maritime zones to ensure they remain unaffected by sea-level rise, arguing that several crucial aspects of such solutions are left undetermined and that thorough, balanced and carefully designed solutions are needed.

We would like to thank our editorial board, our authors, our peer reviewers and you, our readers, for continued support of the journal. We look forward to bringing you even more great research and the ongoing improvement of *JTMS*.

Ajin Choi
Editor