

2013 Topic Decisions

Future of the euro

by Erik Jones

How did the 2008 global recession contribute to the development of the euro crisis? The health of the euro affects and is affected by the state of the global economy. How can European Union leaders prevent the collapse of the common currency?

Egypt

by Bruce Rutherford

The popular revolution that ousted President Hosni Mubarak in 2011 ushered in the promise of radical change. Two years later, what is the state of Egyptian democracy? How will the military and the civilian government balance power?

NATO

by Mark Webber

How has NATO's agenda evolved since its inception during the cold war? With its military commitment in Afghanistan winding down and a recent successful campaign in Libya, what are the Alliance's present-day security challenges?

Myanmar and Southeast Asia

by Barbara Crossette

The West has welcomed unprecedented democratic reforms made by Myanmar's government. What challenges must Myanmar overcome before it can fully join the international community? What role can it play in Southeast Asia?

Intervention

by Thomas Weiss

The "responsibility to protect" doctrine has become central to modern humanitarian intervention. When should the international community intervene? Why did the West rush to intervene in Libya but not Syria?

Iran

by John Limbert

Suspicion and a troubled history have blighted U.S.-Iranian relations for three decades. How can the United States and Iran move forward? Is the existence of Iran's nuclear program an insurmountable obstacle?

China in Africa

by David Shinn

What interests govern China's engagement in Africa? Should China's growing emphasis on political ties and natural resource extraction inform U.S. relations with African nations?

Threat assessment

by Gregory Treverton

How can the United States address the challenges of a weak economy, homegrown terrorism and nuclear proliferation? What threats and opportunities are presented by the ascendancy of China and by regime change in the Middle East?