|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | A close up of a logo  Description automatically generated | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | The Australian Institute of International Affairs New South Wales welcomes you to Week 8 of: | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | A picture containing sitting, front, black, table  Description automatically generated | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | |  | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **From the Councillors** | | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | Each week, some of our Councillors will share with you a selection of articles, analytical pieces, videos and podcasts about what is happening in the world of international affairs. This week we look at the EU's sovereignty crisis, COVID-19's impact on the BRI and what global politics might look like after the pandemic.  Disclaimer: The views expressed below by Councillors are their own. The Australian Institute of International Affairs New South Wales does not take policy positions. | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | |  | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | [**The EU Faces Dissent Over Fiscal Sovereignty**](https://www.euronews.com/2020/05/15/germany-constitutional-court-gone-nuclear-what-happens-next-will-shape-the-eu-future-view)  A ruling by the German constitutional court in Karslruhe on 5 May that attributed higher standing to German national law than EU law on budgetary decisions has cast doubt on the legality of proposals for EU assistance to needier EU members under strain during the COVID-19 crisis. While there is nothing new about tension between sovereignty and supranationalism in the EU, it had appeared that after Britain’s exit the remaining members might become more cohesive. But [**commentary**](https://www.euronews.com/2020/05/15/germany-constitutional-court-gone-nuclear-what-happens-next-will-shape-the-eu-future-view) on the Karlsruhe decision suggests that it may have re-opened familiar fault lines. Although France and Germany have now proposed a compromise 500 billion euro recovery fund for the EU’s worst affected industries and regions, the ruling may put the wider EU legal order in jeopardy, undermining precarious joint fiscal and monetary policy.  Image credit: [**EU Parliament**](https://www.flickr.com/photos/european_parliament/37570218895/in/photolist-ZeXc9K-hiDJqm-4BNjgq-22eCPEt-4UyzTU-cdhbFo-NTsrTL-YPXBrg-KTTb3R-2ekt2ko-G7smSk-286v8LZ-f37AzU-smtnkP-fWZu2h-2cfnh23-C3Kq2E-zgNzHa-28RMnrD-Gh8imo-YBgjxp-a91R9x-8saNDv-8rVoPQ-3nA48X-FE3sKp-T7bZEG-22ivQva-8rVjzw-jzr4g-26iLRuT-oZ6wbm-egxzWk-8rSfeP-27u5gXo-JDoV66-2a7x6t2-2dwYUNZ-8Kaqft-gS5Drm-2cgK9rd-Ds4UwU-8rVm3q-rhVN37-8rVkk9-Z5z53j-2fnXucv-29uyBfe-fecZm6-qRok5W) | | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | |  | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | This article was selected by Ian Lincoln, President of AIIA NSW since 2017. Ian was in the Department of Foreign Affairs for 33 years including postings in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Pacific. He was later an appellate member of the Refugee Review Tribunal and has worked in a number of community organisations. | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | |  | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A person wearing a suit and tie  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | [**Lack of Demand: COVID-19 and China’s Belt and Road Initiative**](https://www.eurasiareview.com/04052020-lack-of-demand-the-coronavirus-pandemic-and-chinas-belt-and-road-initiative-analysis/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+eurasiareview%2FVsnE+%28Eurasia+Review%29)  COVID-19's sweep around the world has devastated the health of hundreds of thousands of people. But however large the health impacts of COVID-19 ultimately are, hundreds of millions more will feel its economic impacts. With people worldwide ordered to social distance and stay at home, entire industries have been shattered. Though national economies will recover in time, fully restoring them may prove to be a slow process. That could create [**one more economic casualty**](https://www.eurasiareview.com/04052020-lack-of-demand-the-coronavirus-pandemic-and-chinas-belt-and-road-initiative-analysis/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+eurasiareview%2FVsnE+%28Eurasia+Review%29): China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Image credit: [**Global Panorama**](https://www.flickr.com/photos/121483302@N02/14600932347/in/photolist-ofeAuT-GeyAn4-dcmZer-Zwik2S-QdyBTM-Zwikoo-A3fUej-YbuE2i-2iQyd36-2gGygDJ-rGUaqV-KUSDDQ-2iMfX34-p3avDo-2gjKZwH-63gz3i-24DPcKb-e5wi46-ruWZkB-2hJXQgh-21yEbVN-63gz1R-63kPdG-KzkQDB-2heDdv8-uucdvm-mBMnAv-GESSAv-AbUDct-goHBZX-goHvkU-nEX6ik-qokM9J-brEJJ7-Xmq8cn-2fjxStR-goJ66F-goJ8kw-goHKWt-zUHoyY-vqheFv-2dRDo5P-9RbuqZ-eVyQuz-pgWLdD-WoHzzU-ZwijCf-2g4Fg2V-QVhZbj-2hJU6Kh) | | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | |  | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | This article was selected by Chris Skinner. Chris served thirty years in the Royal Australian Navy in warships that participated in the South East Asian Treaty Organisation, the Vietnam War and surveillance of the North-West Indian Ocean. He joined the AIIA NSW Council in 2019. | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | |  | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A picture containing table, sitting, filled, food  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | **Politics after COVID-19**  The fault lines in interpretations of politics after the pandemic are apparent. Domestically: greater acceptance of welfare and increased tolerance for the role of the state versus resistance to unravelling the neoliberal reforms of recent years. Internationally: a call for closer cooperation versus enhanced belief in the benefits of sovereignty, reflected more than anything, in the stress on border control as a means of curbing the pandemic. Well informed and accessible sources on this are [***The Guardian***](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/may/08/lockdown-groups-far-right-links-coronavirus-protests-american-revolution), [***The Economist***](https://www.economist.com/leaders/2020/05/14/has-covid-19-killed-globalisation) and [***The Spectator***](https://www.spectator.com.au/2020/05/covid-19-and-the-creeping-state/). I’ll leave it to you to decide where each of these might be located in the discussion. Image credit: [**Jake Siah**](https://www.flickr.com/photos/jacksiah/5802132318) | | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | |  | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | These articles were selected by Bob Howard. Bob researches aspects of the history of international relations in the twentieth century, with special reference to developments in international security. He is an honorary associate and former lecturer in the Department of Government and International Relations at the University of Sydney, and has written extensively on international relations, international security and Australian politics. | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | |  | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **From the Interns** | | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | In addition to our Councillors, we will be inviting one of our interns to share with you what they have found insightful or interesting in the world of international affairs over the past week. This week, Nimaya Mallikahewa introduces us to an article on Vietnam's successful COVID-19 response and the recent border tensions between India and China.  Disclaimer: The views expressed below by interns are their own. The Australian Institute of International Affairs New South Wales does not take policy positions. | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | |  | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A close up of a flag  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | [**Behind Vietnam's COVID-19 Response: Deep Distrust of China**](https://thediplomat.com/2020/05/behind-vietnams-covid-19-response-deep-distrust-of-china/)  Bac Pham and Bennett Murray, [**writing for**](https://thediplomat.com/2020/05/behind-vietnams-covid-19-response-deep-distrust-of-china/)[***The Diplomat***](https://thediplomat.com/2020/05/behind-vietnams-covid-19-response-deep-distrust-of-china/), study Vietnam’s response to COVID-19, highlighting that it was partly deep distrust of their Communist Party counterparts in China which led to the drastic nationwide actions and immediate ban on flights from China at the beginning of February. Despite being close ideological neighbours, Vietnam and China have been geopolitical rivals since the Cold War, with rivalry brewing today in the South China Sea. Pham and Murray emphasise that Vietnam’s distrust of China allowed their pandemic response to be strong and successful, utilising strict public health measures and community mobilisation against a crisis that threatened the state.  Image Credit: [**Denis de Mesmaeker**](https://www.flickr.com/photos/2ni/5698660453/in/photolist-9Fz8dr-5jxMcT-NzQVn-aCpkE-3eEf1x-doosqF-omZ5Su-8vFMda-fPdr7c-Dgks3p-FoyiBL-9EvMUz-6Y33aX-SguhVG-2aS4e5F-atfByt-JByFY9-2f96J4r-JDLTPg-HQoyd1-65pte2-cLDUjj-2gLP5Tb-Bp1kr-2aAr2XS-a5UXHe-8mMe5q-5pf9dz-8fxMnu-9vEx7v-QGsUUj-9hCuFb-4WttmV-t7ix5-8TYofy-4bVms9-w8fpC-bLveHH-71kjR6-aZyiYM-6jZ8qh-2gLP9C5-XMF625-64zAxq-bf1b16-2iThYE3-HepbFd-bQVrbV-EoMN4V-2iPNVQp) | | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A group of people walking down the street  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | [**Fistfighting in the Himalayas: India and China Go Another Round**](https://thediplomat.com/2020/05/fistfighting-in-the-himalayas-india-and-china-go-another-round/)  [**In an article**](https://thediplomat.com/2020/05/fistfighting-in-the-himalayas-india-and-china-go-another-round/) presented by the Diplomat Risk Intelligence division of The Diplomat, Jeff Smith explores the long-standing border disputes between India and China as early May brought new incidents on the contested lands along the Line of Actual Control bordering Tibet. Smith highlights the key conflicts between the nations since the border war of 1962, seeking to understand the reason for these new transgressions and citing India’s assumption of the WHO chairmanship on May 22, as well as various border constructions from both sides and the Indo-US alliance as potential catalysts.  Image Credit: **[Guilhem Vellut](https://www.flickr.com/photos/o_0/66106662/in/photolist-6QPd3-4uufe9-6QPd4-bhuWaX-y71VHA-pAMcD3-ajWinE-K25aBd-a84czT-4t8oDt-JXbjkc-ajRveE-6kHVH6-6kHXXr-6kHXcV-6kHWT6-6kHUpK-3u5c6t-6kHW6t-6kHWvR-3u9FBo-6kHTVT-xmVWGA-3u9RNU-6kHVhz-24yQmBN-24z3PRy-nUSn17-SLNPGT-qKCKn8-24z3K4Y-24z3SD7-oiq9cF-2htw12Y-nUT1FC-3u5aAF-3u53aX-LFTt-xn4LEe-7dgHZF-2dGQDUT-5XsMxc-ygD9i9-xn52ca-y2rTPi-K5v6-y2mfmS-oe97N2-oe9LCv-y2s1LV" \t "_blank)** | | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | |  | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | These articles were selected by Nimaya Mallikahewa. Nimaya is in the final year of her double Bachelor’s degrees in International Studies and Media (PR & Advertising) at UNSW, where she has focused her research on development aid, transitional justice, maritime security and foreign policy in the Indian Ocean region. She has interned at AIIA NSW since February 2020. | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | |  | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **What else we're reading** | | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | * Professor John Keane from the Univeristy of Sydney has published his new book [**The New Despotism**](https://www.amazon.com.au/New-Despotism-John-Keane-ebook/dp/B082DK44KW) online. You can also find a summary of the address  Professor Keane gave to AIIA NSW last year on the same topic [**here**](http://www.internationalaffairs.org.au/news-item/the-new-global-disorder-and-the-rise-of-despotism/). * Eric Foner, writing in the London Review of Books, [**examines**](https://www.lrb.co.uk/the-paper/v42/n10/eric-foner/the-corrupt-bargain) the 18th century electoral college system for electing American presidents and the undemocratic results it can produce. * David Kilcullen has released a new book [**The Dragons and the Snakes**](https://scribepublications.com.au/books-authors/books/the-dragons-and-the-snakes) looking at how the West’s military dominance has been challenged. Kilcullen presented to the institute last year and you can find a summary of his talk [**here**](http://www.internationalaffairs.org.au/news-item/the-dragons-and-the-snakes-evolution-and-adaptation-in-a-new-era-of-conflict/). * In the Lowy Institute's **[COVIDCast](https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/covidcast-episode-11-coronavirus-and-australia-s-pacific-relations" \t "_blank)**, Jonathan Pryke speaks to Liberal Member for Wentworth and former diplomat Dave Sharma about the potential for an Australia-Pacific travel 'bubble'. * The University of Melbourne's **[Asialink Insights](https://asialink.unimelb.edu.au/insights/_nocache" \t "_blank)** looks at the geopolitical prospects arising from COVID-19 as part of their [**COVID-19 Country Snapshot series**](https://asialink.unimelb.edu.au/stories/COVID-Snapshots-Mapping-Responses-Across-Asia). | |

|  |
| --- |
|  |