|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Text  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | The Australian Institute of International Affairs New South Wales welcomes you to issue 67 of: | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A picture containing text  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **From the Councillors** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Each week, some of our Councillors and interns share a selection of articles, analytical pieces, videos and podcasts about what is happening in the world of international affairs. This week, our Councillors consider the history of Australian-China relations, the future of ASEAN and China's economic crisis.   Disclaimer: The views expressed below by Councillors and interns are their own. The Australian Institute of International Affairs New South Wales does not take policy positions. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A picture containing calendar  Description automatically generated | | [China: How Do I Fear Thee? Let Me Count the Ways](https://johnmenadue.com/china-how-do-i-fear-thee-let-me-count-the-ways/) Professor Jocelyn Chey [**presents**](https://johnmenadue.com/china-how-do-i-fear-thee-let-me-count-the-ways/) a wonderful exposé of the reasons why we in Australia fear Asians, particularly the Chinese. It is partly history, emanating from the very beginning of British occupation of this continent. Throughout Australian history, the position or status of the indigenous races were never really recognised as equals in status or position, and this attitude was carried through to immigrants, when "others" were provided with demeaning labels such as "yellow peril" or "Asian hordes" and never allowed into the white Australian population.  During the Whitlam era attempts were made to bridge the gap, but that lapsed after several changes of government.  Australians are very useful as troops to fight in far-off wars, but we are not sure who will protect us if we are attacked. In the last several decades, China has increasingly been the focus of our suspicions and fears, but it is important that both sides be given equal status and that a power imbalance is not allowed to develop. In relations with China, we do not need to relinquish our own values of democracy and human rights, but we should try to understand the priorities of the Chinese leadership, including their preoccupation with territorial integrity and national unity.   Image credit: **[Midia NINJA](https://www.flickr.com/photos/midianinja/51858711649/in/photolist-2n1zsf6-2mLFLvt-2mLKemu-2mLBFqT-2mLHcZ9-2mLLj82-2mLHd1g-2mLLj9e-2mLHd2J-2mLBFvT-d9BNMb-7rzgzN-2mKGLPi-7rzfEs-2n1B8si-9ZP68f-cMUBry-9ZP5mG-9ZLc9i-cMUeFj-bE5Kij-83rME3-6c6bGo-6c4fbh-838v2H-83bDiU-83bDh1-83bDe1-72p7KC-72k8m8-83oFdc-cMUjsh-cMUh1h-cMUyGG-4wQn2x-cMUwg3-cMUp4d-cMUtQ7-d4xpa7-cMU9hG-cMUcHQ-cMUmMW-cMULeu-23JMWM5-E8vXuF-d4xnpW-bE5Pzo-bSZw56-d4xkXQ-cMUEtd" \t "_blank)** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | This article was selected by Glen Robinson. Glen has spent the last 30 years providing advice and assistance to organisations wishing to establish or enhance a commercial presence in the ASEAN region. He has developed a wide range of colleagues in both government and the private sector in the region | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | [**The Future of ASEAN**](https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/internal-divisions-spell-the-end-of-asean-as-we-know-it/)   In the lead up to world summits to be held in Cambodia, Indonesia and Thailand next month, Thitinan Pongsudhirak [**argues**](https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/internal-divisions-spell-the-end-of-asean-as-we-know-it/) in The Strategist that ASEAN is facing an ‘existential crisis’. Internal debates and splits around Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and the military coup in Myanmar have exacerbated pre-existing weaknesses in regional integration. Pongsudhirak highlights the initial excitement and impact of the ASEAN Charter in 2007, where the region was home to the quickest growing economy and the opening of political reform in countries like Myanmar. However, he contrasts this with ASEAN’s reliance on external investment, and its ineffectiveness when major powers are locked in conflict. Pongsudhirak argues that in light of these complex issues, ASEAN needs a new approach. Members that can take common positions should do so without waiting for unanimity. He believes that a new model could see the five original members – Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Singapore – as a renewed organisational core. While he does not believe that ASEAN will be disbanded, the article sheds light into what he argues is a necessary realignment to meet the demands of the current climate.   Image credit: **[MEAphotogallery](https://www.flickr.com/photos/meaindia/49011217371/in/photostream/" \t "_blank)** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | This article was selected by Isabel Freudenstein. Isabel graduated from a Bachelor of Art and Bachelor of Advanced Studies at the University of Sydney with a First Class Honours in International Relations. Her thesis examined the changing nature of humanitarian intervention in a multipolar international system. Isabel is currently studying a Juris Doctor at the University of Sydney. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | [**China’s Economic Crisis is a Ticking Time Bomb**](https://www.thinkchina.sg/chinas-economic-crisis-ticking-time-bomb)   As the title suggests, Taiwanese commentator Chen Kuohsiang argues that China’s economy is a ticking time bomb. He explores what he describes as multiple crises now confronting Beijing policymakers. [**According to Chen,**](https://www.thinkchina.sg/chinas-economic-crisis-ticking-time-bomb) these include a banking crisis (400,000+ depositors unable to access their funds), a real estate crisis (sales dropping by 51% in a sector accounting for 30% of China’s GDP), and a local government fiscal crisis (with revenue from land sales dropping 31.4%). Chen also adds the impacts of China’s tight COVID restrictions, youth unemployment (19.3%), declining consumer confidence and increasing political interference to paint a bleak future for the Chinese economy.  Image credit: [**APEC 2013**](https://www.flickr.com/photos/apec2013/) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **From the Interns** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | In addition to our Councillors, we invite 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, our interns Grace Papworth and Antony Murrell discuss the economic state of the West whilst the war in Ukraine continues and the possibility of rapprochement between Venezuela and the United States.  Disclaimer: The views expressed below by Councillors and interns are their own. The Australian Institute of International Affairs New South Wales does not take policy positions. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | [Wars Aren’t Won with Peacetime Economies](https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/west-needs-war-economics-energy-food-supply-shortages-by-joseph-e-stiglitz-2022-10) This article published by Project Syndicate [**discusses**](https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/west-needs-war-economics-energy-food-supply-shortages-by-joseph-e-stiglitz-2022-10) the current steps taken by our international community against Russia since launching their attack in Ukraine. Columbia University Professor and former chief economist of the World Bank, Joseph E. Stiglitz, argues that while the West has responded politically and diplomatically, they have neglected taking appropriate economic action. Stiglitz tells his readers about the dangers of Russian appeasement and prolonged war: “wars inevitably cause shortages and generate windfall gains for some at the expense of others”. In places such as Europe or the US who are providing military and financial assistance to Ukraine, there are winners and losers. Oil companies, energy sectors and other war profiteers are taking advantage of changing markets while the rest of the world is dealing with a higher cost of living as a result of the “war’s fallout”. Stiglitz points out that the West, particularly the Biden administration, is at pains to not appear anti-business - but war-time economics is not peace-time economics. Taxing profiteers of the war, aka “windfall profits” and using these to finance necessary war spending is responsible wartime governance. Without responsible wartime economics the West cannot continue to support the war in Ukraine and popular support will wane.  Image credit: [**Victoria Pickering**](https://www.flickr.com/photos/vpickering/) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | This article was selected by Grace Papworth. Grace is currently in her fourth year of a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Arts (Politics) at the University of Sydney. Grace has experience in the legal profession as a law clerk and has worked within the political sphere in the office of US Senator Tim Scott (US Congress) and Senator Andrew Bragg (Australian Senate). | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | [**With Migration Surging, US Considers Easing Sanctions on Venezuela**](https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/12/world/americas/venezuela-us-sanctions.html?smid=tw-share)  In this article for the New York Times, Natalie Kitroeff and Anatoly Kurmanaev [**discuss**](https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/12/world/americas/venezuela-us-sanctions.html?smid=tw-share) the possibility of the United States lifting sanctions on Venezuela. Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February, many have suggested an American rapprochement with oil-rich Venezuela may be on the cards. Though the Biden Administration has remained coy on the issue, oil supply concerns and increased refugee movement are pushing Washington to reach some kind of accommodation. Such developments could represent a diplomatic breakthrough with the Maduro government, which Washington has refused to recognise since 2019. This may be contingent on political reforms within Venezuela. It may also depend on the results of America's upcoming midterm elections. Negotiating with Maduro would generate a backlash within Florida's Cuban and Venezuelan exile communities. But if the state remains staunchly Republican, Biden may figure he has little to lose. Whatever happens, a political realignment is taking place in South America. And the normalisation of ties between Maduro and Colombia's new president, Gustavo Petro, signals it may be time for Washington to reassess its Venezuela policy.  Image Credit: [**Kr**](http://www.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/61640/photos)[**emlin**](http://www.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/61640/photos) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | This article was selected by Antony Murrell, a fourth-year Bachelor of Arts (History)/Bachelor of Laws student at UNSW. Antony's interests include geopolitics and Latin America. He also writes for the YouTube channel, CaspianReport. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **What else we're reading** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | * Richard McGregor, former bureau chief for the Financial Times and Senior Fellow for East Asia at the Lowy Institute, [**writes**](https://www.lowyinstitute.org/publications/best-way-avoid-war-arm-taiwan) on the decoupling of China and the US, arguing that a growing self-sufficiency may make both of these countries think they can survive a military conflict and therefore more likely to start one. * Robin Niblett, senior adviser with the Center for Strategic and International Studies, [**discusses**](https://www.csis.org/analysis/shock-and-incredulity-why-markets-dont-buy-new-british-governments-growth-plan) why markets don’t buy the new British government’s growth plan. * Phelim Kine writes for Politico, [**discussing**](https://www.politico.com/news/2022/10/16/xi-jinpings-path-to-power-from-outcast-to-emperor-00061974) the almost certain ascension of Xi Jinping to a third term as China’s leader. He writes that US-China relations will be prey to the hawkish authoritarian for years to come. * Isobel Koshiw  and Patrick Wintour in The Guardian [**discuss**](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/sep/06/west-reluctant-to-put-putin-on-trial-say-ukrainian-officials) how Ukraine’s major western allies have yet to sign up to establish a tribunal to try Vladimir Putin and his inner circle for the crime of aggression, wanting to leave space for future relations with Russia, * Huynh Tam Sang, research fellow at the Taiwan NextGen Foundation, [**writes**](https://thediplomat.com/2022/10/vietnams-un-abstention-casts-doubt-on-its-commitment-to-principle/) in The Diplomat that Vietnam’s failure to condemn Russia’s attempts to annex four regions of Ukraine signals its continued prioritization of national interests over moral principles. * Dr Rachel Killean in [**her book**](https://www.routledge.com/Victims-Atrocity-and-International-Criminal-Justice-Lessons-from-Cambodia/Killean/p/book/9780367895471?gclid=CjwKCAjwwL6aBhBlE) ‘Victims, Atrocity and International Criminal Justice: Lessons from Cambodia’ discusses how international criminal courts do (and do not) bring justice to victims. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Letters to the Editor** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Get involved!**  We're committed to keeping conversations about international affairs going, so get involved in our Letters to the Editor section!  Each week, we publish letters from our subscribers about what they think of the issues we’re discussing.  You can take part in the conversation by emailing us with your comments on each edition's articles. There are just a few simple guidelines: letters should be no more than 100 words in length, and should only be about the previous edition's articles. Please include your name and affiliation, and a mobile number (which won't be published). If you are a university student, please include your university and current degree.  Send all letters to the editors at [**aiianswletters@gmail.com**](mailto:aiianswletters@gmail.com) by Wednesday at 5pm Sydney time for the chance to be published in the following fortnight's newsletter. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | | |