THE JOURNAL OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AT CAROLINA

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Volume VIII    Issue I    Fall 2022
Cover photo: Picture of the houses along the canal in Copenhagen, May 26th. 
Photo by Willem Kloempken, Junior, studying History, Peace, War, and Defense, and Geographic Information Systems.
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

So many students and organizations contributed their time and effort to the Journal of Foreign Affairs at Carolina (JFAC) this semester. The team would like to thank the Carolina International Relations Association (CIRA) and its leadership, particularly Mikhal Ben-Joseph, President, and Rohan Rajesh, Vice President, for advising and supporting the journal as a branch of CIRA. Thank you to our authors and photographers for contributing your creative work, and for working with our editorial team throughout the semester. Finally, JFAC is grateful to the many departments at UNC who share our requests for student submissions each semester. The publication of JFAC’s Fall 2022 issue would not be possible without each of these people.
FROM THE EDITOR

It is hard to believe that we are at the end of another semester, and that 2023 is around the corner. Both this fall and this year were eventful in foreign affairs — 2022 will likely be another year remembered in history books far into the future. Economic turmoil, continued challenges in stopping the spread of diseases, and the ongoing war in Ukraine are all examples of this year’s major global upheavals. However, there have also been many instances of international cooperation, such as in scientific innovation and diplomatic coordination.

This year’s international events, both positive and tragic, are all reminders of the fact that no country or individual is isolated from the impacts of global affairs. So many of the future’s challenges, whether averting economic crises, responding to climate change, or protecting democracies, will require voters, scientists, and leaders in all areas of society to think beyond national borders.

With this future in mind, our editorial team has worked hard this semester to publish undergraduate analyses of foreign affairs across many disciplines, both to increase the visibility of student work and to further the campus conversation about questions we think are significant and relevant: questions like what makes historical figures memorable, how political parties evolve, and why international relations change over time.

This Fall 2022 issue of the Journal of Foreign Affairs at Carolina features student pieces on broad and varied international topics. Several pieces examine historical phenomena: ancient, as in “If Alexander Didn’t Exist;” 20th-century, as in “The Racial Ideology of the Ustaša;” and more recent, as in “Religious Sectarianism and Secular Nationalism in the Syrian Civil War.” Others delve into today’s domestic politics, both of the U.S. (“We’re Gonna Need a Bigger Budget?”) and of countries around the world (“Effective Strategies for Fighting Political Corruption in Peru”). Still others take a regional or comparative approach, as in “History and Hope” and “Comparing France’s La Republique en Marche and Poland’s Law and Justice Party.”

It continues to be the journal’s mission to expand students’ awareness of and interest in international topics like these, so that after graduation, students will stay informed about global events in their careers, leadership roles, and everyday lives. This fall, the journal grew its editorial team, received more well-researched articles and creative photography submissions than we could publish, and returned almost completely to in-person meetings. The executive team is incredibly proud of JFAC’s editors, authors, and photographers for their work this semester.

Of course, this publication would not be possible without them, as well as the leadership of the Carolina International Relations Association, the professors who kindly distributed our requests for student work, and the executive team at JFAC. Thank you Jay, Stuti, Robert, Michelle, Phoebe, Mariana, and Emma, for being phenomenal executive team members. Thank you to the seven student authors who contributed their pieces to this issue and collaborated throughout the semester with JFAC’s editors to prepare their articles for publication. Last, but certainly not least, a huge thank you to the Fall 2022 editorial team, whose consistent hard work and enthusiasm made this semester at the journal an especially fun one.

To our readers, I hope the following articles spark a continuing interest in learning more about international events. To our editorial team, I greatly look forward to working with each of you again this spring semester.

Sincerely,

Hannah Rubenstein
Editor-in-Chief
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