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The Towson Journal of International Affairs is accepting submissions for publication. The submission criteria is as follows:

- The journal seeks to publish original arguments that show extensive, high-level research.
- The primary focus and argument of a submitted manuscript should lie in the field of international relations. Papers focusing on domestic politics will not be considered for publication, unless the topic is the domestic politics that surround a given country’s foreign policy.
- Student papers can range from 3,000 to 7,000 words (roughly 10-25 pages), with the ideal length falling between 5,000 and 6,000 words.
- Submissions must use footnotes in accordance with the Chicago Manual of Style.
- Authors of accepted papers agree to allow the editorial board to engage in editing of the manuscript for style, although substantive changes will not be made. Authors will be given the right of final review of their manuscript, and they should expect to be in regular correspondence with the journal as their manuscript proceeds through the each stage on its way to final publication.
- Paper Format: All submissions must be double spaced, 12 point font in Times New Roman. Pages should be numbered in the bottom right corner, have 1 inch margins, with left side alignment, and the paper should have a title page. The authors’ identifying information should be restricted to the cover page.
- Authors should prepare an abstract of their work of no more than 200 words.

Papers will be evaluated using both substantive and stylistic criteria. Too many problems with the written presentation of a work may disqualify it even if the argument or subject is compelling.

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Dear Readers,

It is with great pleasure that we present to you Volume LI, Number 2 of the *Towson University Journal of International Affairs*. This edition of the Journal contains articles on a variety of topics that carry with them important implications for the study and practice of international affairs. Coincidentally, all of the articles featured in this issue were written by authors affiliated with Towson University, including an alumna, two current students and Journal members, and a faculty member in the Department of History. These articles demonstrate the variety and high quality of work that members of the Towson community regularly produce, and we are delighted to publish their work in this edition of the Journal.

First, Mackenzie E. Rice examines the prominence of masculinity within American nationalism and its influence on U.S. foreign policy in her article, “When Gendered Identities are National Identities: The Influence of Masculinity on American Foreign Policy.” In this unique analysis of American foreign policy, Rice demonstrates how a societal preference for and emphasis on masculinity has historically impacted both the rhetoric and outcome of various U.S. foreign policy decisions. Using the Cold War, the aftermath of 9/11, and the current administration as case studies, Rice demonstrates the impact of masculinity on the formation of both American national identity and foreign policy, offering a compelling and critical analysis of American culture and society in the process.

Second, Cameron H. Bell explores a new and emerging field within contemporary international relations in “Cyber Warfare and International Law: The Need for Clarity.” Cyber warfare is becoming a prominent alternative means by which states engage in acts of aggression against each other, which was evidenced by Russia’s interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential. However, Bell argues that current international law is not prepared to address this emerging form of interstate aggression. More specifically, the current definition of aggression under U.N. General Assembly Resolution 3314 must be expanded to include cyber warfare if this new threat is to be handled properly. In his article, Bell utilizes a number of case studies to illustrate the need for cyber warfare to be included within the framework of international law, as this threat is certain to become more widespread and must be addressed by the international community in a direct and forceful manner.

Third, Harry Nitzberg dissects the complexities behind Venezuela’s current economic crisis in “Cauterization and Infection: Trying to Fix the Venezuelan Economy.” In this article, Nitzberg analyzes the crisis in Venezuela and offers a set of solutions designed to stabilize the Venezuelan economy. By thoroughly examining the historical and factors behind Venezuela’s current state of affairs, Nitzberg is able to propose a set of solutions that operate within Venezuela’s existing political reality and are not overly ambitious or unrealistic. In doing so, he has provided a crucial analysis of the often under-discussed economic and human rights crisis in Venezuela.
Finally, Dr. Robert E. Rook of Towson University offers his perspective on North Korea’s tenuous relationship with the international community in “Arts of Evasion: North Korea, Sanctions, and the World.” This article constitutes a summary of Dr. Rook’s comments in his lecture for the second installment of the Dr. Eric A. Belgrad Lecture Series. We are very grateful for Dr. Rook’s contributions to the lecture series and this edition of the Journal. In this article, Dr. Rook draws on his years of experience studying the region to explain the various mechanisms by which North Korea has evaded the sanctions levied against it to continue to exert influence on the world stage. By exploring the various tools by which North Korea has been able to avoid the consequence of these sanctions, Dr. Rook offers an important analysis that provides the historical strategic context for understanding the actions of the Kim regime in response to international pressure.

As evidenced above, this issue of the Journal addresses a wide range of topics and approaches within the field of international affairs. The insights are original and we hope you find them as thought-provoking as we did. We are pleased to feature them here, and we sincerely trust that you find this issue of the Towson University Journal of International Affairs to be informative and timely.

Sincerely,
Tim Bynion and Amna Rana
Editors in Chief
When Gendered Identities are National Identities: The Influence of Masculinity on American Foreign Policy

Mackenzie E. Rice.......................................................... 1-20

Cyber Warfare and International Law: The Need for Clarity

Cameron H. Bell.............................................................. 21-43

Cauterization and Infection: Trying to Fix the Venezuelan Economy

Harry Nitzberg............................................................. 44-68

The Dr. Eric A. Belgrad Lecture Series

Arts of Evasion: North Korea, Sanctions, and the World

Dr. Robert E. Rook.......................................................... 69-82