

SUMMARIES

Kai M. Schellhorn: "Asia after the end of Cold War",
ASIEN, (Januar 1993) 46, pp.5-22

The present observations start from the assumption that the existing new global order is still in the "status nascendi". In contrast to the rigid horizontal confrontational system of the Cold War (bipolarity), it is here defined as a hierarchically-structured vertical power rivalry (multipolarity). The power-political pre-eminence of the USA in the global context is beyond question. Thus the apex of the vertical hierarchy is known. Like the other states, Washington is at present developing new strategies in the various regions of the world to deal with the new situation. In the Third World regions of Asia, Latin America and Africa the end of the Cold War - and the disappearance of the Soviet Union - has released new and enormously dynamic power rivalries.

In Asia they are: Japan's new interest in having a say in world politics and in Asia; China's desire for an Asian leadership role - its cooperation with Vietnam which resulted in the Cambodia solution and its reestablishment of relations with India; India's foreign and domestic reorientation; and Vietnam's and Laos' interests in being integrated into ASEAN. Others include the increased efforts of the ASEAN states to gain political weight and to achieve successful economic cooperation, and the recent deescalation steps between South Korea and North Korea. China, Japan and India represent the three powers in Asia with distinct claims to priority positions.

Liu Guanxue: "How the PR China deals with the employment problem",
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Although the PRC with a population of 1.16 billion people is the most populous country in the world, it is still an underdeveloped country. However, the PRC has successfully solved the employment problem. The article discusses this success with special reference to the introduction of "family responsibility system" in the countryside, how the managers were made responsible for their enterprises in the urban areas, how labour service companies are operating, how the state has allowed different types of ownership since 1980, how the collective, private and individual economy have been favoured among other issues.

Lutz-Christian Wolff: "Labor service companies in the Peoples Republic of China",
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To absorb unemployed workers, so called labour service companies were founded in the People's Republic of China ("China") in the late seventies. According to Chinese sources, the labour service companies operate with great success. However, it has been admitted that they have to confront the same severe problems as other Chinese state-run enterprises.

The situation between the Chinese labour service companies and the Beschäftigungsgesellschaften (employment companies) which were set up in response to the employment problems in the former GDR is different: Unlike Germany China's economy is still based on socialist principles. Chinese labour service companies are more a substitute for the non-existing social security system. In addition, unemployment in China and therefore the foundation of labour service companies is still mainly caused by the enormous growth of the Chinese population, whereas East German Beschäftigungsgesellschaften became necessary because of unemployment caused by rationalization-measures.

Cheng Jianying: "The Chinese law of competition",
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Competition has been brought into the Chinese economy by the Chinese economic reform. State, collective and private enterprises are to compete in respect of advertisement, price, product quality, business conditions etc. So far as competition is concerned all the enterprises are supposed to have equal rights. However, nothing has changed regarding the market dominating position of state enterprises. After discussing theoretical preparation of Chinese law of competition, the article explores legislation in respect of this right, the contentious issue of economic power in Chinese legislation regarding competition and criticisms of drafts of regulations against monopoly and unfair competition which are annexed.

Kazuaki Tezuka: "Foreign workers in Japan",
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Only for the last four to five years have the problem of foreign workers in Japan been intensively debated. Their number has increased rapidly during this period, as it has become more difficult for Asian workers to find work in Arabia and the USA and Australia have made their immigration rules more stringent. The poor work conditions of foreign workers in Japan are described and a survey is summarized which has been carried out by a research group led by the author himself. This group interviewed 18,000 enterprises as well as 800 foreigners and 200 entrepreneurs.

Jürgen Rüländ: "Elections in Thailand - no clear-cut vote for democracy",
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On 13 September 1992, Thailand's electorate went to the polls for the second time within six months to elect a new parliament. The new elections were to take the kingdom out of its political turmoil since last May. At that time the military had opened fire on unarmed demonstrators who were demanding the resignation of the unelected Prime Minister General Suchinda Kraprayoon. The article examines the election campaign of the political parties and analyses the election results. It is difficult to assess these results as a clear-cut vote for democracy. They show a strongly polarised picture of Thai society.